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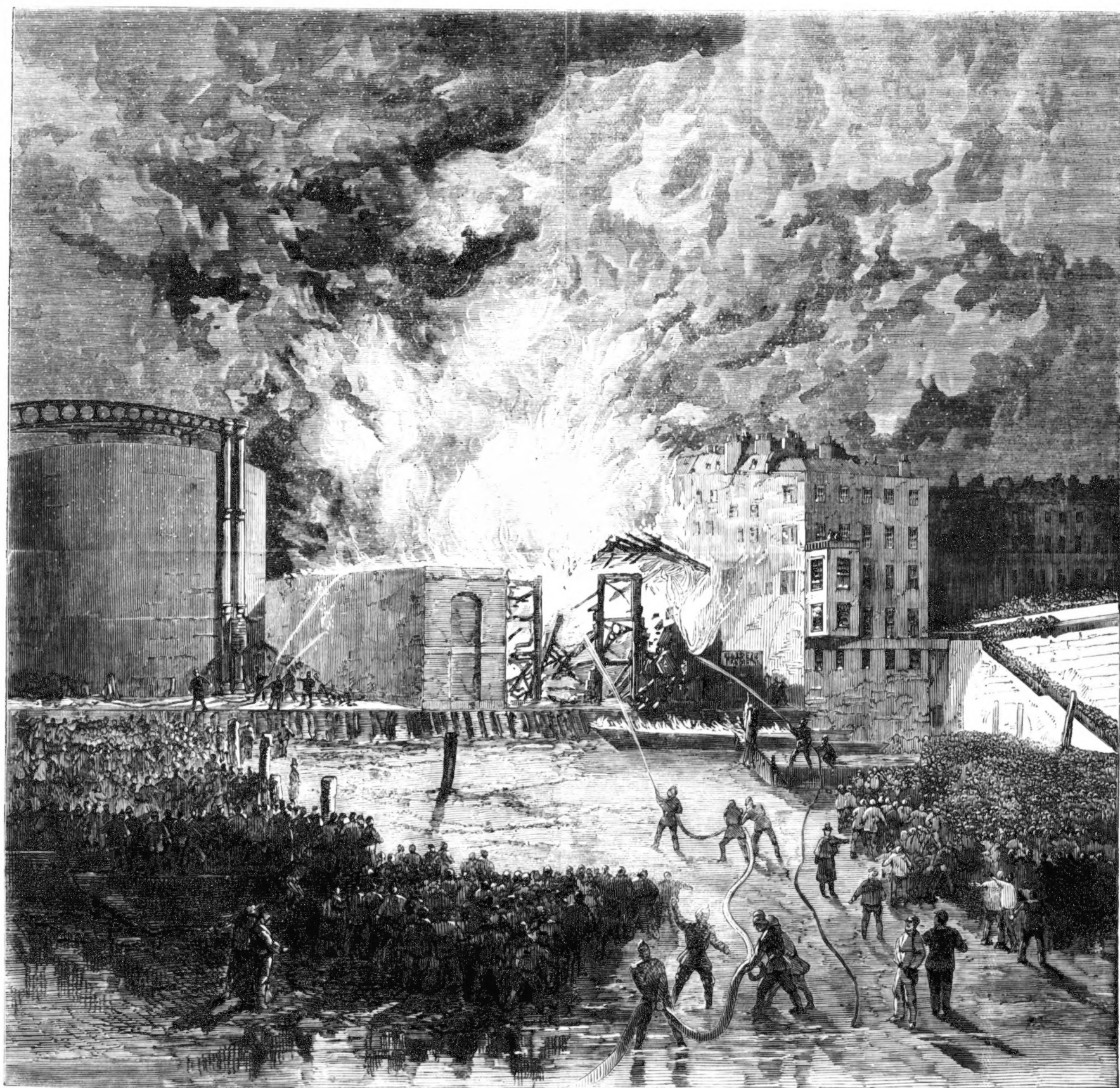
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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

ALL eyes just now are turned upon Greece, and every one is anxious to know, not merely the result of the election for the throne—for it appears certain that the choice will fall upon Prince Alfred—but whether the Crown when offered to him will be accepted. The *Globe*, which is supposed to represent to a certain extent the views of the Government, has published an article intended to show that there is no positive reason why he should refuse it; while the *Times*, which is also regarded, with or without cause, as the organ of at least a portion of the Ministry, maintains that it is the interest of

England not to interfere, directly or indirectly, in the affairs of Greece, and that an English Prince ruling at Athens would find himself in a false position. That is, probably, at the present moment, the general feeling in England, though the mere fact of an English Prince officiating at Athens as constitutional King would not only not bind us, but would not even give us the slightest pretext for mixing ourselves up with Greek politics. The object of the Greeks in offering the vacant crown to an English Prince is partly, no doubt, to obtain the annexation of the Ionian Isles to the kingdom—and this, by-the-way, may be looked upon as a tolerably good proof that

our Government of the said islands has not been quite so tyrannical as has been sometimes alleged. Should Prince Alfred decline the gift, as he probably will, the consequences may be very disastrous to the Greeks. It is said that they will refuse to elect any one else. Then candidates will be pressed upon them by Powers less scrupulous than England, and Athens will become the centre of all sorts of intrigues, one of which will doubtless have for its object the nomination of the Duke of Leuchtenburg, a member of the Russian Imperial family. If, however, the Greeks are not allowed to elect an English Prince of their own free will, it is



THE FIRE AT PRICE'S OIL-WAREHOUSE, BLACKFRIARS.

not likely that we shall suffer a Russian Prince to be imposed upon them.

From Greece to Rome the transition seems natural enough, though in modern times the connection between Greek and Roman politics is not very striking. Nevertheless, if the Greeks do succeed in getting Prince Alfred for their King he will have at least as much right to his personal influence at Athens as the French have to theirs at Rome, which, as every one knows, they occupy in spite of the inhabitants and for the express purpose of keeping them down. The new pamphlet on the Roman question by Prince Napoleon throws no light on the views entertained on that subject by the Emperor, except in so far that it proves him once more to be by no means determined to defend the holy father against attacks with the pen. No one, however, believes that Prince Napoleon wishes "seriously" to oppose the Emperor on any point. He advances certain arguments by which the Emperor is in no way bound, but which he can at any future period adopt as his own if he thinks fit. It is much better for his Majesty that this convenient sort of opposition should proceed from a member of the Imperial family than from some outsider who might not know where to stop. The mild, indirect censures of Prince Napoleon are of more use to the Imperial policy than the direct support of some writers—a fact of which we are reminded by certain law proceedings recently made public, in which the parties concerned were the late proprietor of the *Morning Chronicle*, on the one hand, and M. de Persigny and M. Billault on the other.

It appears that Mr. Serjeant Glover some years ago purchased the *Morning Chronicle*, which, until about the year 1854, was a journal of the highest rank, and, in a literary point of view, very much what the *Saturday Review* is now. After buying the newspaper in the ordinary way of business, the new proprietor, by his own confession, sold it to the French Government, and now complains that he did not get the money, and brings an action for its recovery. Mr. Glover's case is certainly a very hard one, but if he had been enough of a lawyer to study precedents, he would have found that, in all compacts by which liberty of thought and conscience are bartered away for material advantages, the material advantages are, as a matter of course, secured beforehand. In ancient times and in the middle ages, when a poor man was sometimes driven by hunger or danger to become the slave of a rich and powerful lord, the food or protection required was given at once. In analogous cases, where individuals are said by popular tradition to have sold themselves to the evil spirit, the agent of the government of the lower regions—Mephistopheles, Zamiel, Bertram, or whoever he might be—always performed his part of the agreement as soon as the contract was signed. Even Peter Schlemihl, in parting with such a trifle as his shadow—the outward visible sign of his reputation—received what he thought an equivalent at once.

On the other side, M. de Persigny would probably argue that at least Peter Schlemihl had a shadow to sell, and that Faust and all his followers really possessed souls. Now the *Morning Chronicle* was without a soul when it fell under the power of the French Government. M. de Persigny thought—foolishly and wildly enough, no doubt—that he was purchasing that *Morning Chronicle* whose opinions exercised a real influence among the educated classes of England, whereas what was sold to him was the mere dead body of a newspaper from which all spirit had departed.

The "moral" of this story of Serjeant Glover and M. de Persigny (unfortunately it is no fable) is simply that a newspaper which sells itself to the French or any other Government is not worth buying. It appears from the published report of this scandalous affair that Mr. Glover placed no less than three journals—the *Morning Chronicle*, the *Morning News*, and the *Evening Journal*—at the service of the French Government, and that M. de Persigny has had them all killed under him. The *Morning Chronicle* had, in its day, occupied a distinguished place in the ranks of journalism; but we do not think many persons remember even the existence of the *Morning News*, and are convinced that the *Evening Journal* was never, at any time, known a hundred yards from the office where all three were published.

M. de Persigny seems to have thought that a newspaper was a sort of machine which could be worked as well and as profitably by one person as by another—an "organ" that might be set going with equal facility to the tune of "Partant pour la Syrie" and of "God save the Queen." But as there are barrel-organs and organs proper, so there are newspapers proper and newspapers which (as it appears) are sold in the market to the highest bidder and for the lowest purposes. It is evident, as regards the superior class of instruments, that they can be of no use unless the services of efficient performers be retained along with them, and that even then the tunes played must be such as will please the public, on they will not be listened to. The efficient performers, however, are not to be bought. As to the barrel-organs, any one can set them going; but the result is never worth hearing, and when the sounds produced are positively offensive to English ears it is certain that the nuisance cannot last long. Not only are no halfpence forthcoming on the part of the public, but the noise is avoided, and after sounding for a time *in vacuo*, at last ceases. So all journals published in England must and ought to perish that do not honestly represent, in some shape or other, English opinions.

We need not say a word about Mr. Glover's conduct in this affair; it speaks for itself. As for M. de Persigny, it is really astonishing that he should have imagined he could buy a newspaper editor, writers and all, as he would buy an estate with the game upon it. Doubtless there was a certain number of literary serfs attached to the *Morning Chronicle* when it

passed into the hands of Mr. Glover and beneath the influence of the French Government; but the skilful, honest cultivators who made the journal what it was until about eight years ago had already taken their departure. We do not pity M. de Persigny for having incurred a debt of £14,000 for nothing, any more than we should pity a man who, wishing to purchase with a large sum of money the hand of a supposed beauty, should discover, after signing the marriage contract, that his bride had false teeth and false hair. We are only astonished that the Minister's eyes were not keen enough to detect the worthlessness of the *Morning Chronicle* when the support of that journal was offered to him; and that the mere fact of the offer being made did not prove to him that it would be folly to pay anything for it. When Mr. Glover's journal was sold to the French Government the English public were already beginning not to read it because it was growing stupid. After the sale had been effected the readers deserted it altogether, because its tone had become base.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE NEAR BLACKFRIARS-BRIDGE.

THE extensive warehouses belonging to Messrs. Charles Price and Co., oil refiners, situated at the north-western corner of Blackfriars-bridge, and to the east of the City Company's Gasworks, were burnt to the ground on the evening of Thursday, the 20th inst. These buildings, which cover a space 600ft. in length by 100ft. in width, were entered by a gateway in William-street, and were connected with the river by a spacious wharf and landing-stages for receiving and shipping goods. On the western side of the entrance-yard was a warehouse, nearly 100ft. long and three floors high, each compartment of which contained several hundred tons of oil; and immediately facing this building, and separated from it only by a waggon road about 25 or 30 feet wide, stood another warehouse, similarly constructed; adjoining it, on the north side, was a smaller building termed the cooperage; on the eastern side of the entrance-yard stood a number of houses, used as offices, which fronted Chatham-place, and five of which formed a portion of the Royal Hotel.

The first intimation of the outbreak was received about five o'clock, when a man, who had just entered the yard to unload a cargo, noticed smoke coming out of the oil warehouse on the south-east corner. Feeling convinced that something was on fire, he raised an alarm, but in the course of a few minutes the whole neighbourhood was startled by flames bursting out almost simultaneously from not less than thirty windows on one side of the yard. From the limited space between the building and the warehouse on the opposite side it was evident that, unless the fire could be speedily arrested, both must inevitably fall a prey to the flames. In a few minutes the engines of the Farringdon-street brigade attended; but by the time they had arrived the flames were rolling completely over the carriage-way, and were feeding upon the opposite warehouses. A number of men who were employed on the works, and a great many other workmen from Messrs. Spicer's, the papermakers, at once proceeded to remove barrels of oil and other combustible articles from the warehouses. Five land steam-engines next arrived, under the direction of Captain Shaw, the superintendent of the London brigade. They were so placed that the hose was carried round to meet the conflagration at each point. A numerous body of police-constables quickly arrived and lined the approaches to the bridge and William-street. It was fortunate that they did so, for a space had no sooner been cleared for the firemen than cask after cask of oil exploded, making a noise like the discharge of musketry, and flames from the burning oil ran down the banks of the wharf and simultaneously ignited four or five barges, some laden with oil and others with coal. Great fears were for a time entertained for the safety of the gasometers of the City of London Gas Company, but fortunately the deluge of water thrown by a powerful steam fire-engine and the direction of the wind obviated the mischief. If they had exploded there must have been a fearful loss of life, owing to the immense concourse of persons assembled on and near the wharves.

While some eight or ten firemen were standing in front of the eastern warehouse a portion of the wall fell, nearly dropping upon the men below. The brigade, however, stuck to their work in a manner to excite the admiration of the whole of the bystanders. The flames seized upon the back of several houses in Chatham-place, including the Victoria Club, belonging to Mr. Fisher, and the back of a portion of the Royal Hotel. They were damaged, but principally by water. Fortunately, the main buildings were saved without the least injury.

At eight o'clock the fire had nearly exhausted itself, but it was not till between one and two o'clock on Friday morning that the flames were finally extinguished.

It is difficult to estimate the value of the property destroyed. Messrs. Price are insured, but the loss, it is expected, will far exceed the amount of the insurance. The barges destroyed were the property of several lightermen, and it is understood that some of the owners, being poor persons, were uninsured. The bridges—Blackfriars, Waterloo, Southwark, and London—were rendered impassable for hours by the crowds which collected upon them. A strong body of police kept the Surrey side of the river to prevent carriages passing to the Middlesex side, while the City force kept the populace from crossing to the Surrey side, and by that means a great loss of life was prevented. Several persons, however, in their anxiety to escape from the blazing oil, rushed into the river; but it is believed that they all managed to get out.

About seventeen years since half of the same buildings was destroyed by a similar fire, owing to the sudden bursting of a barrel of turpentine. The burning liquid on that occasion ran through the yard, burnt a fire-engine, and, floating along the surface of the Thames, set fire to the floating engine and several barges.

GARIBOLDI.—The bullet has at last been safely extracted from Garibaldi's foot. The operation was performed at ten o'clock on Sunday morning by Dr. Zanetti. There was no difficulty whatever about the extraction. Thus the vexed surgical question is at last set at rest; and a far more important result has been gained in the fact that the recovery of the patient will now, no doubt, be both steady and rapid.

PRINCE NAPOLEON'S PAMPHLET.—"Prince Napoleon's Pamphlet," as it is very inappropriately called, containing, in fact, nothing from his pen, and about which a great deal of fuss has been made of late, has at last been published at Paris. It is merely a collection of the documents which the Prince consulted in preparing the speech which he delivered in the last Session of the Senate against the temporal power of the Pope. The papers extend over two centuries, and show that during that period the manner in which the Popes have governed their territories has been blamed and inveighed against by some of the most eminent French statesmen.

BRIGANDAGE IN ITALY.—Numerous stories are in circulation, having for their burden the atrocities committed by bands of brigands. One of these, the scene of which is laid near Eboli, as follows, is said to be true. It is common with some others, represents the labourer in the country districts as half workman, half brigand. There were labourers engaged in some kind of occupation not far from a large fountain in that neighbourhood, who filled up the intervals between work and their devotions to the Madonna with a little brigandage on their own account. When a carriage appeared the zappa or the trowel was abandoned, and then muskets were taken up from under the sod. The travellers were rifled, a horse or a man shot, as the case might require, and then these industrious fellows resumed their ordinary labours. This had gone on for some time, and no one could trace out the guilty parties. As for the padrone, he could answer for his men as being always occupied. One of the band, however, who divided the affections of a woman with another man who was not one of the band, murdered his rival one fine evening, and the woman was arrested. Under menace of being shot if she did not reveal the names of the murderer and his accomplices she betrayed six of the latter. A week after she was again arrested, and then sentenced to be shot if she did not also betray the capo. Agreed. In the dark of the evening she goes to the trysting-place followed by carabinieri, mounts a tree, and gives a whistle. Immediately the ground rises not far off, and the capo emerges from his subterranean hiding-place, which had been ingeniously covered over with boughs of trees, leaves, and sods. The woman descends, and it is unnecessary to say that the ardour of their embraces was cooled by the rush of the carabinieri, who arrested both.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The Greek question, in connection with the growing conviction that the Greeks will elect Prince Alfred as their Sovereign, is at the present moment the principal topic of conversation in Paris. The articles in the semi-official journals denouncing English ambition have produced the impression that Prince Alfred will be elected in opposition to the wishes of the Emperor, and that serious complications between the Courts of St. James's and the Tuilleries may arise. At the Council held at Compiègne on Sunday it is said that the question was discussed, and it is expected that in a day or two the *Moniteur* will publish a notification on Greek affairs. According to the *Patrie* the Russian Government has intimated at Paris and at London that it considered the Treaty of 1830 to be still binding, and therefore could not acknowledge as Sovereign of Greece any member of the reigning families of the protecting Powers.

It is asserted that France has determined to proffer her mediation to the American belligerents alone, having reason to believe it will be favourably received by both parties.

ITALY.

The debate in the Italian Chambers on the conduct of the Government has been going on for several days, and a strong feeling adverse to the present Cabinet has been exhibited. Indeed, the position of the Rattazzi Ministry appears to become far more critical than was at first expected. It now appears that Signor Minghetti has finally declined to have anything to do with a Cabinet constructed out of the ruins of the present, and that Farini is likely to take the same course. Rattazzi's own manner, it is stated, grows evidently more and more uneasy and embarrassed each day.

A circular has been published, which General Durando, Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs, addressed on the 8th of last October to the French Cabinet. This document possesses considerable interest, as it was the starting point in the interchange of despatches in which M. Drouyn de Lhuys adopted so peremptory and even arrogant a tone towards Italy, and complained of the "tumultuous manifestations" in England. General Durando's circular seems to have exactly the tone one would expect of an independent Italian Minister. It approaches the Roman question temperately, but decisively and firmly.

AUSTRIA.

A despatch from Pesth announces that the Emperor of Austria has granted a general amnesty to all persons condemned by military tribunals in Hungary for political offences. This measure, however, will only comprehend, we believe, those who return to their homes within a certain time. All political proceedings already set in motion are to be suspended. The general intelligence from Austria and from Hungary seems to indicate that the hopes which were entertained of a compromise between the Government and the Magyars have vanished. The Austrian journals assert that the national party in Pesth refuse any concession; which is but probable, seeing that the national party have all through made only one demand—the restoration of the Constitution of Hungary, and declared that they would be content with nothing less.

The debate on the Army Estimates for 1863 was brought to a close on the 19th inst., the Government having agreed to submit to a reduction of 6,000,000*fl.* The War Budget of 1861 was 134,000,000*fl.*; that just agreed to amounts to only 111,000,000*fl.* On the 18th inst. one of the superior employes in the War Office gave to the Lower Chamber of the Reichsrath a detailed account of the way in which the "War Budget" for 1863 had been drawn up. He stated that the first draught of it, which was made in December last, had been subjected to a strict revision, and that on the return of the Minister of War from the journey which he had not long ago took for the benefit of his health it had again been revised. After the supplies for the year 1862 had been voted, Count Degenfeld found means to effect a saving of 1,100,000*fl.* in his department.

PRUSSIA.

The state of the difference between the King and the Parliament remains unchanged. Addresses continue to be presented to his Majesty from the reactionary party, in reply to which he has made some further speeches. In one of these the King said:—

I shall continue to maintain the reorganisation of the military force. I have been misrepresented in many quarters, and my words have been misunderstood. I have sworn to uphold the Constitution received from my brother his late Majesty, and I shall conscientiously keep my oath in the sense expressed in my programme of November, 1858. But it is also requisite to govern constitutionally, so as to promote the welfare of the country. The Sovereign alone can do this in Prussia. The representatives of the people should assist him by constitutional co-operation in legislation, and not further obstruct his Government.

To another deputation the King made the following remarks:—

There exists in all classes of society an agitation which grieves me, because the people have been made to believe that the Constitution is in danger. This is not the case. By standing still or retrograding public detriment is caused. The progress at which I aim will only be a wise and moderate one. People speak of making up differences and concluding peace! Who has broken peace? Not I. I hope that the opinion which is opposed to my acts is not the expression of the majority of the people, but only of a party in the country, which, I am sorry to say, has misled many, and that no conflict will arise. The weakening of the power of Prussia compromises the dignity of Prussia and the realisation of her mission in Germany, which is to bring about, not the unity but the union of Germany. Should evil days come, I hope that all well-disposed people will rally round me.

GERMANY.

The Committee of the Germanic Diet has reported on the proposition of the seven Governments, allies of Austria, for forming an assembly of delegates at the Diet, elected by the various Parliaments of Germany. The report is in favour of the adoption of the proposition. In the last sitting of the Diet the Prussian representative protested against the adoption of such a measure.

The police authorities of Frankfurt have just refused to allow the United Germany Association to establish its central seat in that city. Three years ago a similar demand made by the National Verein Committee was also refused.

HESSE CASSEL.

The Elector of Cassel having, in violation of his engagements with Prussia, refused to lay the Budget before the Chamber, and subsequently indefinitely adjourned the Session, the Prussian Government has dispatched a note to the Government of Electoral Hesse reminding the Elector of the engagement, and demanding its fulfilment. The bearer of the note has, it is said, instructions to wait but twenty-four hours for an answer.

POLAND.

A letter from Warsaw of the 19th inst., describes the condition of Poland as still far from satisfactory, and announces that a conspiracy against the Russian Government has made extended progress amongst the people. The letter says:—

"Indistinct rumours pervade the entire land, and people whisper to one another that an armed insurrection will soon break out, that already thousands of firearms for the insurgents are ready, and so on; but these are only empty rumours, the basis of which is certainly to be found in the fact that the entire population, not only of Warsaw but of Poland, is at present in a very feverish condition. It is asserted that the conspiracy has made great progress throughout the country, and it is conceded that far more than 100,000 stout young people of all conditions, with the exception of the peasantry, have taken the oath to the revolutionary committee. The Government, therefore, fears the worst, and even the military authorities, in the midst of an apparently peaceable people, are in continual commotion. All this is very disagreeable to the quiet citizens who are engaged in trade, and these peaceful inhabitants pass the nights in dread and anguish. They fear a useless shedding of blood, and all the horrible consequences which follow an insurrection in a large town; and dread the terrorism of the Poles as much as the severity of the Russians."

TURKEY.

The negotiations for the establishment of a national bank have been brought to a conclusion.

The Prince of Montenegro has again protested against the erection of blockhouses along his frontier; but the Porte persists in its intention.

MEXICO.

The *Epoca* of Madrid publishes a letter from Mexico, dated the 19th ult., which states that the Belgian and Prussian Plenipotentiaries had protested against the expulsion of French citizens. It was believed that the Belgian Minister would be expelled the city for having addressed some severe language to Senor Lafuente regarding a rumour that Mexico was to be laid under water upon the approach of the French troops.

THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

GENERAL NEWS.

The *New York Tribune* contains a report that the Confederates have occupied Chester and Thornton Gaps, in the rear of General Burnside's army. General Stonewall Jackson is in the neighbourhood of Winchester.

The Southern journals assert that General Lee is going into winter quarters within a few miles of Richmond.

The same journals represent Richmond to be in a very lawless condition, no persons venturing out after nightfall.

The Federal expedition has returned to Newbern, North Carolina. It advanced to within eleven miles of Farborough, where the Confederates were found in heavy force.

The Confederates have been routed at Moorfield, Hardy County, Virginia.

It is semi-officially announced that no resignations of army officers have been received since General McClellan's removal, but that there will be no difficulty if officers are disposed to resign.

It is not supposed that General Fremont will receive any command in the field.

The future financial policy of the Federal Government attracts much attention. A petition is to be presented to Congress urging the Government to issue twenty-year bonds in amounts of 500,000, and upwards, bearing 4½ per cent; the bonds to be made a legal tender by law, and the Government to apply them to the payment of all debts, and the redemption of the existing legal tender currency.

It is semi-officially announced from Washington that no foreign Powers have officially indicated any intention of recognising the Southern Confederacy.

Immense frauds have been discovered in the New York Custom-house.

In New York, on the 13th inst., there had been a slight panic in the Stock Market, owing to various rumours that were current that General Burnside had been defeated, and that the Confederates were again in possession of Harper's Ferry. The rumours, whether they be confirmed or not, show the apprehensions that existed.

An advance on the part of the new Federal commander, Burnside, was expected, and a battle was thought to be imminent, as it was reported that the Confederates had concentrated their forces so as to be ready to fight "the greatest battle of the war."

The Federal General Rosecranz had arrived at Nashville, and the communication between that city and the North had been restored. The Confederates had retired southward. There is no truth in the reported capture of Mobile, and the same is the case as to a report of the capture of 3000 Confederates at Plymouth. The draughting in New York had been indefinitely postponed.

The Secretary of the Treasury has advertised for 13,000,000dols. of 7 3-10ths per Cent Bonds, being the remainder of the issue authorised but not yet disposed of.

The Merrimac No. 2 (Confederate iron-plated ship) had been completed, and was below Fort Darling, ready for sea.

The Southern journals assert that the Federals were defeated in their expedition from Newbern to Williamstown, North Carolina.

At Charleston a powerful ram had been launched, and two more were ready for plating with iron, which was expected to arrive from this country. A steamer appears to have run the blockade of the port. She was fired into by a Federal cruiser, but, as the shots rattled off her without doing her harm, she is supposed to have been iron-plated; and it is further surmised that she may have had the wished-for iron plates on board. General Beauregard was fortifying Charleston, and had ordered all slaves and non-combatants to leave the city. It was believed that, in the event of a successful attack by the Federals, the Confederates would destroy the place and abandon it.

POLITICAL INTRIGUING.

The eternal intriguing and canvassing for the presidency threatens to ruin the Federal cause, and is the innate source of all the weakness and embarrassment of the Administration, both in its civil and military departments. The President is unwise enough to desire his own re-election, and among the competitors for the office are almost all the prominent politicians and Generals who surround him, and endeavour to lessen his popularity, lest it should conflict with their own. Mr. Seward, it is believed, has finally renounced the idea which has been the *ignis fatuus* of the later years of his life; but his colleagues are more ambitious and less sagacious. Mr. Chase, dreaming of no collapse of his paper currency, aspires to the presidency. Mr. Stanton makes no secret of his belief that he would fill the place much better than the present occupant. General Banks cannot procure the important command to which his military genius and high character entitle him, lest he should be too successful, and so damage the chances of others, who consider themselves better than him. General McClellan was thwarted and vilified, and has now been dismissed for the same reasons, in conjunction with the hostility of the Abolitionists. General Fremont, who is already the candidate of the ultras, was spoiled as a soldier, because he, who expects so soon to command the whole nation, was much too great a personage to obey Mr. Lincoln. Even General Wadsworth, so decisively beaten in New York, has a party at his back, who flatter him with the idea that he may yet have consolation for his defeat in the occupancy of the White House; and Generals Dix, Hunter, and a score of others, are looked upon by their friends, if not by themselves, as on the "tracks" for that highest object of an American's ambition. And if a man does not want to be President, any ability or genius he may display makes him hated by all who do. If he be a statesman, he is systematically depreciated, slandered, and kept out of office. If he be a soldier, he is systematically watched, lest he should become too powerful, and at the proper moment, or that which seems to be the proper one in the eyes of greedy and jealous candidates for office, he is stricken down as McClellan has been, to rise again if he have any pluck and energy in him; but to rise no more if he have much philosophy or self-respect, or a conscience that will not soil itself with base intrigues and unworthy subservience to manner men.—*New York Letter.*

DISMISSAL OF GENERAL McCLELLAN.

General McClellan has been removed from the command of the army of the Potomac, and General Burnside has been appointed his successor. The President's order making this important change reached the head-quarters of the army on the night of the 7th inst., at eleven o'clock, and, being entirely unexpected there, took every one by surprise. The command was at once handed over to General Burnside, who, on taking the superintendence of the operations in Virginia, addressed the following order to the army:—

In accordance with General Order No. 182, issued by the President of the United States, I hereby assume command of the army of the Potomac. Patriotism and the exercise of my every energy in the direction of this army, aided by the full and hearty co-operation of its officers and men, will, I hope, under the blessing of God, ensure its success.

Having been a sharer of the privations and a witness of the bravery of the old Army of the Potomac in the Maryland campaign, and fully identified with them in their feeling of respect and esteem for General McClellan, entertained through a long and most friendly association with him, I feel that it is not as a stranger I assume command.

To the Ninth Army Corps, so long and intimately associated with me, I need say nothing. Our histories are identical.

With confidence for myself, but with a proud confidence in the unwavering loyalty and determination of the gallant army now instructed to my care, I accept its control, with the steadfast assurance that the just cause must prevail.

The ostensible reason given for General McClellan's removal is made known in some correspondence between General Halleck and the Secretary of War, in which the former states that on the 6th of October he issued peremptory orders to General McClellan to cross the Potomac and give battle to the enemy; but that the latter refused to obey, on the ground that he was short of supplies. The necessary supplies (says General Halleck) were, however, promptly supplied, and there was nothing to prevent General McClellan advancing. This proceeding of the President has caused much excitement in the army and among the people generally, and it will, there is little doubt, be regarded as a political measure. The Republican journals approve of it, while others think it will be received with doubts and apprehension by the Democrats. As far as is known, McClellan has quietly submitted to the censure and retired to Trenton, New Jersey. Before leaving, the General addressed the following farewell order to the troops:—

Officers and Soldiers of the Army of the Potomac.—An order of the President devolves upon Major-General Burnside the command of this army. In parting with you I cannot express the love and gratitude I bear to you. As an army you have grown up under my care. In you I have never found doubt or coldness. The battles you have fought under my command will proudly live in our nation's history. The glory you have achieved—our mutual perils and fatigues—the graves of our comrades fallen in battle and by disease—the broken forms of those whom wounds and sickness have disabled—the strongest associations which can exist among men, unite us still by an indissoluble tie. We shall ever be comrades in supporting the Constitution of our country and the nationality of its people.

At the various stations along the line of railway by which General McClellan made his way North he was heartily cheered. On reaching Warrenton Junction a salute was fired. The troops, which had been drawn up in line, afterwards broke ranks, when the soldiers crowded around him, and many eagerly called for a few parting words. He said in response, while on the platform of the railroad depot, "I wish you to stand by General Burnside as you have stood by me, and all will be well. Good-by!" To this was a spontaneous and enthusiastic response.

The following letters describe the excitement in the army and in Washington caused by this event:—

Head-quarters, Army of the Potomac, Warrenton, Nov. 9.

The removal of General McClellan from the command of the army has occasioned the wildest excitement. Officers and men unite in denouncing the order as an outrage upon the army, and, while they express no objection to General Burnside as an officer, they protest against the measure most earnestly. Many have prepared their resignations, and distinguished officers of rank assert that they will no longer serve in the army if the order be not rescinded. General McClellan received the announcement of his removal with perfect equanimity. He has not been heard to utter a word of complaint, nor has he made any allusion to the subject in the presence of his Staff, other than to mention the surprise occasioned by the reception of the despatch. It was equally unexpected by General Burnside, who at first positively declined to accept the position.

Washington, Nov. 9.

The removal of General McClellan has produced the most intense excitement in this city. It is almost the sole topic of conversation everywhere. The Radicals assert that this removal is based upon a report made by General Halleck representing that General McClellan has persisted in disobeying orders and misrepresenting the condition of his army in regard to supplies of clothing and subsistence. The friends of General McClellan declare that his removal was agreed upon before the recent elections, and is a part of the programme of the Radicals to obtain the control of the armies in the field. It is unfortunate for the Administration that this removal has been made at this time without a promulgation to the country of sufficient reasons for it. It is asserted that upon every occasion when General McClellan was upon the eve of a decisive battle—one which would to a great extent settle the whole question now in issue between the Government and the rebels—he has been prevented from striking the blow by the interference of the Government. In this instance he was certainly pushing forward with unwonted rapidity, and actually astonishing the country by the promptness of the movements of his army and the celerity of its progress. It is believed that a general and decisive engagement must occur very soon, and may take place at any moment, and the removal of the General in command under these circumstances, without any apparent reason therefore, except political manoeuvres, has aroused a feeling in the community which is portentous. The intensity of the excitement here cannot well be described. It extends to all classes of people, and manifests itself in a sternness of determination which forbodes a terrible expression of public indignation. It is said by those who are presumed to have opportunities of knowing, that this bold act of the Administration is but the beginning of the end, and that what is to follow will be still more startling. Many express the opinion that a disruption of the Cabinet will immediately ensue. There is reason to believe that the removal of General McClellan was without the sanction of either Mr. Seward or Mr. Blair, and that it has inaugurated a conflict between the Conservative and Radical portions of the Cabinet which must terminate in the withdrawal or expulsion of one or the other party. This result is anxiously looked for, and the expectation of greater events is perhaps all that serves at present to prevent some open expression of popular dissatisfaction.

It is proposed by the Democratic party to nominate McClellan as their candidate for the next presidency, and the announcement of the fact by Mr. John Van Buren at a meeting in New York is reported to have been received with "loud plaudits."

IRISHISM IN THE ARMY.

A New York correspondent thus describes a scene he witnessed lately in paying a visit to the camp of Corcoran's Irish Brigade near that city:—

Hearing a great shouting from the centre of the camp, I asked a volunteer what was going on. He replied in French that he did not understand. Getting into conversation with him in his own language, I learnt that he was one of five sailors from Havre who had enlisted for the bounty-money on the previous day, and that none of them could speak a word of "American." His own idea was that the war in which he was to take part was between the "Americans" and the "Mexicans." As regards the shouting in the camp, he said he had heard that an officer had been presented with a horse as a testimony of esteem from his friends, and that he was returning thanks for the gift. On proceeding to the edge of the crowd of soldiers that surrounded the officer I found it was an Irish captain who had been presented with a sword, and not a horse, and that he was making a violent repeal speech. "Fellow Irishmen," he said, "I entered the Federal army for three reasons—first, to make myself a name, like Corcoran; secondly, to learn the art of war; and, thirdly, that at some future time, not far off, I might, with this sword in my hand, which you have given me, lead you back to the dear native land from which you have been banished (tumultuous shouting and waving of caps). Yes; lead you back to the dear land to drive out the bloody Saxon from the green fields of Erin (Renewed shouts). The Saxon conquered your lands from your ancestors by the sword. By the sword let us drive him out. (Hurrah! hurrah! Erin aboo!) Yes; drive him out and share among us the lands that rightfully belong to us. (Hurrah! hurrah!) I tell you, my countrymen, that we will do it. There are 30,000 true Irishmen in America who have sworn to do it. We will do it, or we will perish in the attempt. (Hurrah!) Let us rescue the land of our birth from the oppression of the bloody Saxon heretics—(Hurrah! hurrah!)—as soon as this war is over. (Hurrah!) Yes, let us go back to Ireland as conquerors." At this point an aged volunteer, with scant grey hair, who stood close to me, said to himself aloud, "As if we hadn't had enough of it before we came here!" I asked this man the officer's name. "I don't know," he replied; "he's got a new sword, and he's making a fool of himself." The captain continued his harangue for fully ten minutes in the same style and to the same purport, interrupted by continued bursts of applause, but said not a word about the merits of the quarrel in which these men had sold themselves, or attempted to explain to them why they should at one and the same time be so very anxious to put down rebellion in America, and to start a rebellion of their own in the British Isles.

The Corcoran Legion has since started for Fortress Monroe, having lost nearly one-half of its men by desertion, and with the remainder in a state of semi-mutiny on account of the non-payment of the second instalment of their bounty and of their arrears of pay. It is scarcely to be expected, under the circumstances, that when matters come to the fighting point they will be of much service to the Federal cause, unless the innate love of a "shindy," so characteristic of their nation, shall impel them to fight for fun, in default alike of pay and of patriotism.

THE EMBANKMENT OF THE THAMES.—Two important subjects were brought before the Metropolitan Board of Works on Monday. The first was as to the new street from the embankment at Blackfriars-bridge to the Mansion House. A report from the engineer and architect of the board was read suggesting various alterations of the plan of last year, by which the gradients and approaches of the street would be improved at a very little extra cost. The report was approved, and the necessary steps for carrying a bill through in the ensuing Session were ordered to be taken. The second subject was that of the embankment of the south side of the Thames from Westminster-bridge to Vauxhall-bridge. The engineer's report estimated the total cost at £615,000. A resolution approving of the plan was carried.

IRELAND.

A STOUT CENTENARIAN.—A Castlewellan (Ulster) correspondent states that, a few days since, he saw three men digging potatoes in the neighbourhood of that town—a father and two sons; but, strange to say, the father, who has arrived at the round age of ninety-six, took the lead in the labour with a vigour most surprising. This fine old man's father died only nine years since, having lived to the age of 109 years.

HAYES.—It is stated confidently that the murderer Hayes was seen lately going through the woods and plantations which stretch along almost continuously from Droumarris, beyond Windgap, to Carricksbrook, a distance of eight miles. The constabulary have made a search for him there in vain. His son was at the fair of Cappawhite, in the county of Tipperary, on Monday last. It is stated, as a proof of the sympathy of the people for his father, that "scarcely a minute passed but he received handshakes and embraces from the country people."

MORE THREATENING LETTERS.—A house, the property of Mr. Peter Coffey, excise officer at Lisacarr, Ennis, was set on fire on the morning of the 22nd inst., and consumed. Mr. Coffey, it is stated, had recently taken the house, with some land, from which a tenant named Michael McGraith had been ejected, and had only got possession of the land on the 15th instant, and on the following morning, while staying at the Spa of Lisdoonvarna, he received a threatening notice (through the post-office), threatening him if he had anything to do with McGraith's land that he would be treated as Beckham treated Fitzgerald. The usual figure of a coffin was drawn at the end of the document.

DESTRUCTION OF DUNDALK DISTILLERY.—On Saturday evening last, a fire was discovered on these premises which caused a serious loss of property, and at present one life. The distillery is known as one of the largest and finest in the kingdom, and gave employment to nearly 100 men. On the discovery of the fire the 15th Hussars were sent for, when immediately after 500 of that regiment and several officers attended with the barrack engine. About ten o'clock the roofs fell with a terrible crash. The fire smouldered all night, and next morning the front part of the building was a dismal mass of charred beams. The casualties are one soldier dead, and three seriously unwell, from having partaken of some fusil oil in their excitement, mistaking it for whisky. The loss sustained is put down at £10,000.

SCOTLAND.

THE PRINCE OF WALES.—At a banquet given at Wick in honour of the Prince of Wales the Earl of Caithness, who presided, read extracts of a letter he had just received from the Prince. In it his Royal Highness says:—"I beg to return my most sincere thanks to Lady Caithness and yourself for your good wishes, and I assure you I feel now what it is to be really happy." He says further:—"If I can make the future life and home of the Princess a happy home, I shall be content. I feel doubly happy in the thought that my approaching marriage is one which has the approval of the nation, and I only trust that I may not disappoint the expectations that have been formed of me."

PAINFUL ACCIDENT.—The Scotch papers report an accident which, though it involved only one life, contains more of the true elements of horror, and strikes more sharply on the fine chords of human terror, than many a great and meaningless catastrophe. Thomas Lock, a dock labourer, was working on a ship, just beached near Wigtown, when she heeled over, and the bulwark fell on his chest. The tide was fast coming up, and it was evident that in an hour the wretched man would be drowned unless the weight could be removed from his chest. All the place turned out to help, but the weight was immovable, and the tide flowed on remorselessly. A clergyman stepped forward into the water and prayed with the unhappy victim. A napkin was at his own request placed over his face that he might not see the tide, and so, apparently without complaint, he lay till the waters closed over his head, while the townspeople, gathered round in helplessness, sobbed aloud.

STRANGE INDEED, IF TRUE.—A Scotch newspaper tells the following story:—About two weeks ago a fox, less cunning than many immortalised, allowed himself to be caught in a trap at Springkell, but was adroit enough to liberate himself again. Reynard, however, in making his escape, fell into another difficulty. In leaping over a hedge he found himself in a field where a mare was grazing with a foal at her foot. The mare, moved with anxiety about her offspring, perhaps, confronted the fox and showed fight. Foxey, however, considered discretion the better part of valour, and stretched himself in a furrow as flat as possible, pretending to be dead. The dodge was successful; the mare magnanimously declined to kill a dead fox, walked away, but had not got many yards when foxey, seeing the coast clear, rose from his lair and ran off at his utmost speed. The mare, however, observed the manoeuvre, and galloping after Reynard, soon overtook him, and with one blow on the head with her forefoot she terminated the disreputable career of the wily plunderer of henroosts.

THE PROVINCES.

CHARGE OF DISINTERRING BODIES AT ROCHEDALE.—For the last few days rumours have been afloat in Rochdale to the effect that the registrar of the cemetery had been removing the bodies of paupers out of their graves and placing them in other parts of the cemetery. It appears to have been customary to bury the bodies of paupers in a vault in one part of the cemetery; and it is rumoured that after the bodies had been interred some one had removed no fewer than nineteen, and placed them in other parts of the cemetery at the depth of 20ft., and the upper portion of this ground had been let afterwards for private graves. An investigation is to be made into this affair.

A MAD RAILWAY RIDE.—The guard on duty at the Donington station on Saturday night last was astonished to see a man on horseback trot along the line by the platform. The officer directed him to the highway, and allowed him to depart without giving his name or address. On examination of the line it was found that the horseman had broken open a gate and so got on the line, that he had traversed it when a goods train passed, that he had been within a foot of going over a bridge nearly 30ft. high, and in one place had been down a steep embankment, where his horse had been struggling violently. This adventurous forsaker of the road for the rail has been discovered in the person of a farmer, who will probably hear more of his trip.

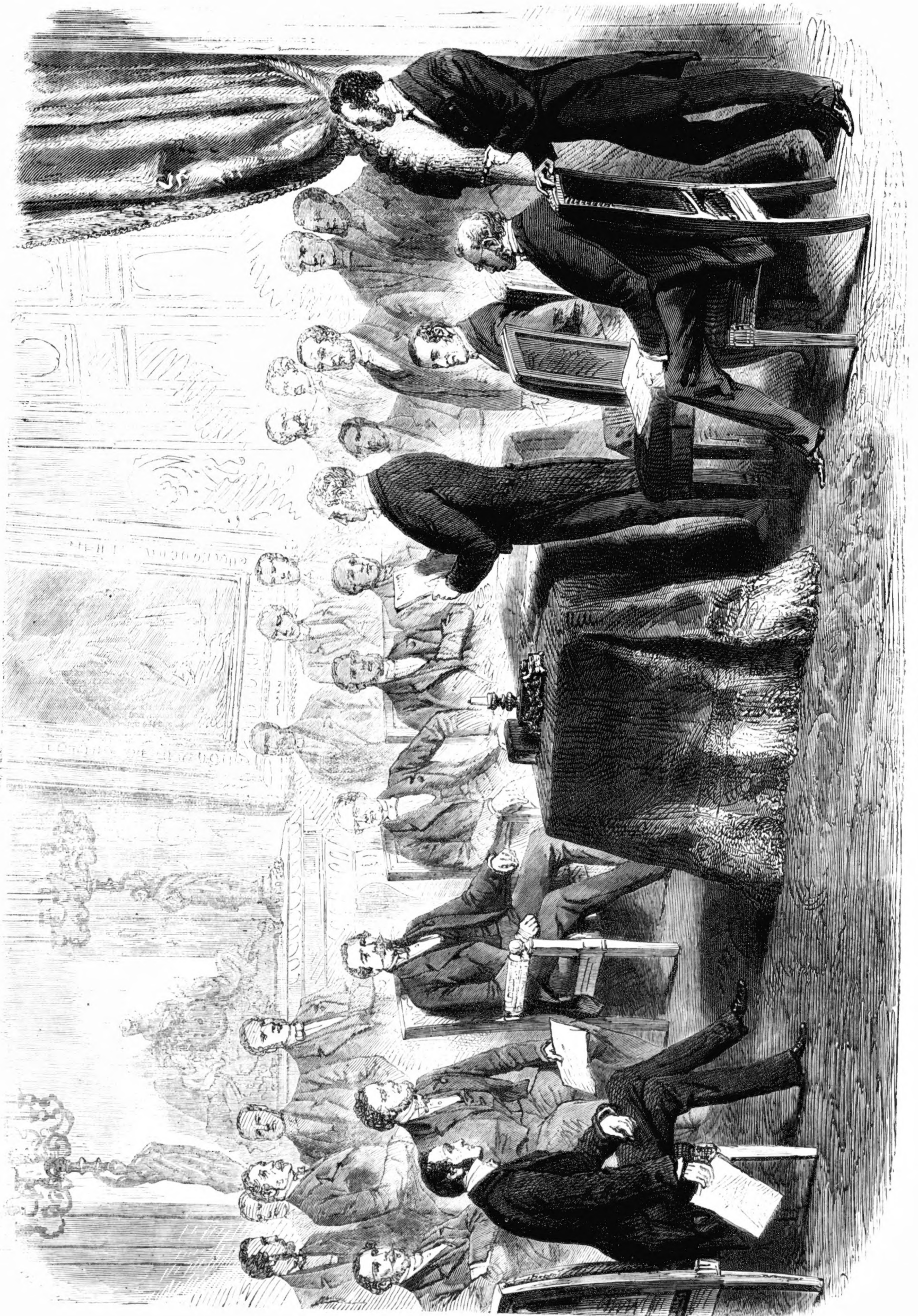
A WHOLE FAMILY NEARLY POISONED.—A whole family in York, of the name of Cooke, have had three narrow escapes from death by poison. Having all been taken alarmingly ill after their ordinary meals, an analysis of the food took place, and arsenic and tartarised antimony were discovered in large quantities mixed with the salt and flour that had been used. The case is involved in the greatest mystery. It is supposed that the mixture of the poison with the salt and flour has been the work of some one who designed the death of those who partook of it; but there is, nevertheless, an absence of all ground of suspicion against any particular individual. The domestic servants in the house appear to have suffered in a similar manner to the family. The wife of Mr. Cooke's son has been apprehended on suspicion of having mixed the poison with the flour used by the family.

DARING BURGLARY AT LEEDS.—An ingenious burglary was perpetrated in Leeds on Friday night week, on the premises of the Calder and Aire Navigation Company. It appears that the thief had concealed himself in a closet in the passage while the clerks were at work, and was locked up in the offices when they went away. By breaking some windows and opening others he managed to have access to almost every room in the place; he even made his way to the drawing-room of one of the clerks who lives on the premises, and where the keys of the iron safe were deposited. Having secured these the rest of his task was easy. He took away about £830 in notes and gold, overlooking about £130 in the course of his search. From his movements it was clear that the thief was familiar with the place and its ways, but no trace of him had been discovered.

SAD FATE OF TWO CHILDREN.—Two sisters, named Lee, having been missing from their parents' home for more than a week, the woods, the cliffs, the seashore, the lanes, and fields for miles around were searched again and again for them, and people were beginning to surmise there had been foul play, or that they had wandered in the dark over the cliffs and fallen into the water; but it was determined to make another effort before abandoning all hope. This was done, and in the wood near Month Mill the bodies were found by four of the county constabulary, who formed a portion of the exploring party. The position of the bodies and their appearance, taken in connection with all the circumstances known relating to their loss, indicate that they had wandered into the wood, were overtaken by night, and died from exhaustion and exposure.

A BENEVOLENT LADY has presented to the National Life-boat Institution £340 to pay for the new life-boat and transporting-carriage which the society had just sent to Fleetwood, on the Lancashire coast, in lieu of a previous small boat there, which was found unsuitable for that dangerous station. The new life-boat is to be called the Edward Wasey, after Captain Wasey, R.N., who, while in command of the Fleetwood coast-guard district, had often gone off in the life-boat, and had rescued twenty-seven shipwrecked persons under the most dangerous circumstances, and occasionally during a midnight tempest.

"AUTOMATIC EYEBALL."—An interesting contribution to medical science has just been made to the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital. It consists of a most ingenious apparatus for exhibiting the muscular mechanism of the human eye, and is called the "automatic eyeball." It was sent by the inventor, Professor Hæser, of Prague, to the Austrian Court of the International Exhibition, and at the close of the latter presented to the above institution. The apparatus consists technically of a left eyeball, the movements of which are regulated by strings attached to keys, which are worked like the keys of a pianoforte. There is also a graduated dial attached, upon which, by means of indexes affixed to and moving with the strings, the extent of each muscular action is accurately marked. This simple contrivance thus exhibits at a glance the beautiful arrangement of the muscular structure of the eye, the knowledge of which, hitherto, could only be acquired by dissection or oral instruction. In short, the "automatic eyeball" performs for the exterior what the ophthalmoscope has already done for the interior of the eye; and the gift of the learned professor is therefore an important addition to the clinical resources of the above-named hospital.



COUNCIL OF STATE AT THE TUILERIES.

COUNCIL OF STATE AT THE
TUILERIES.

EVER since the time when Catherine de Medici extended the walls of Paris that they might include her new Palace of the Tuileries, that vast but ugly building has been the principal seat of the French Government as well as the Royal residence, and its name is almost synonymous with those councils which have so often kept Europe waiting for their decisions.

The Cabinet meeting recently summoned at St. Cloud, true to this latter tradition, appeared to arrive at no definite result in its deliberations; and while the course of the French interference in Italy is still uncertain, the whole position is still further complicated by the recent publication of the pamphlet of Prince Napoleon, which, opposing the temporal power of the Pope, is taken to be significant of the Imperial position.

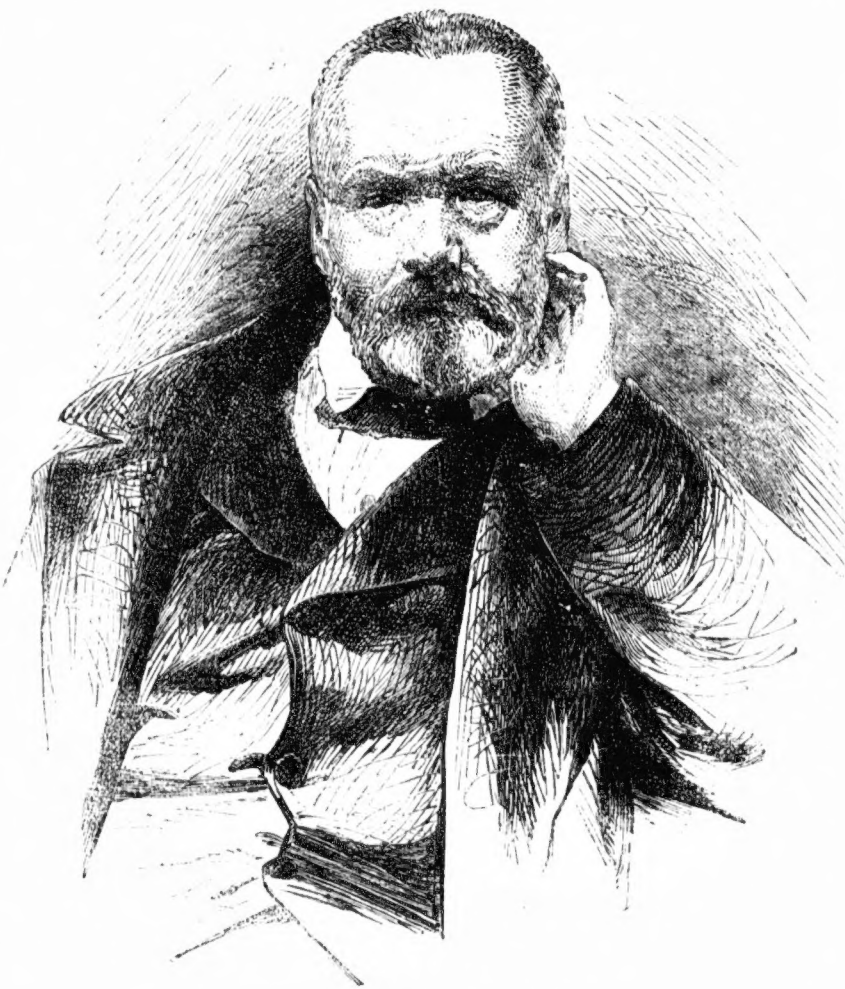
The entanglements of the French occupation of Rome, the intervention in Mexico, and the grave consideration of European interference in the American conflict are all matters the importance of which can scarcely be overestimated; but there are, at the same time, serious difficulties to be overcome in the policy which can secure prosperity to France and keep Paris quiet. Our Engraving represents the recent State Council held for considering the abolition of that monopoly which the Government had exercised in fixing the price of bread sold by the bakers, under a municipal institution which forbade them to charge beyond the sum settled by law. It is generally believed in France that this edict enabled the Government to surmount the difficulties of the period at which it was announced, since the consumer was assured that he should not suffer beyond a certain point in consequence of the scarcity of grain. To ensure this result, an agreement was entered into between the State Committee and the bakers, the latter receiving certain loans, which enabled them in some sort to conform to the prices fixed upon by the former; so that, although there was created by these means a monopoly which could never be recognised in England in consequence of our dislike of Governmental centralisation, a temporary arrangement was effected, sufficient at least to meet the crisis for which it was introduced.

The free-trade principles which have been introduced into France, however, have made it desirable to place the bakers on the same footing as other manufacturers—freeing them entirely from State restrictions.

The Council of State nominated M. Le Play to make a full report on the whole question, and this report represented the common opinion of his colleagues. After the report had been read, however, Baron Haussmann, Prefect of the Seine, opposed the immediate abolition of the Imperial enactment; and his exertions, coupled with those of M. Damas, obtained an adjournment of the question for six months, during which it is probable that there will be an attempt to reconcile the various and conflicting claims to which the new state of things will give rise.

VICTOR HUGO.

It may startle those of our readers who know little or nothing of the more intimate controversies of the inner circles of literature to be told that the claim of Victor Hugo (of whose lyrics and dramatic poems scarcely any one is entirely ignorant) to the title of poet is disputed by able and honest critics. He is supposed to stand just upon the boundary line where intense and picturesque rhetoric disputes the ground with poetry properly so called. But this is a matter of small moment, and one thing is certain—that M. Hugo represents nobly—in a vacillating, hair-splitting, success-worshipping day—the sturdy energetic type of the thinker, with a will and a con-



VICTOR HUGO.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.)

science and a capacity of unshaken fidelity to ideals. Whoever else tolerates Louis Napoleon and forgets the coup-d'état, M. Hugo does not. Bravely he stood up against it in December, 1855, and though he has had opportunities of returning to France, the "Man of December" is still to him "Napoleon le Petit," and he keeps him at arm's length in dignified contempt. With his wife and family, he now resides at Hauteville House, Guernsey. This house, it is said, belongs to our own Queen, in right of certain seigneuries, as Duchess of Normandy. So here we have a great man of letters whose creed is Republican; who is a French Peer having been ennobled by Louis Philippe; who is an exile from his native country, and who has the Queen of England for a landlady!

Viscount Marie Victor Hugo is descended from a noble family of Lorraine, and was born at Besançon on the 26th of February, 1802. His father served with distinction under the first Napoleon, while his mother was of Royalist stock. From Besançon he was taken to Elba, from Elba to Paris, from Paris to Rome, and from Rome to Naples, before he was five years old—having thus, as he says, made the grand tour pretty early. Afterwards he received his education in a convent, and, at an age when most boys are playing

at pegtop, began to write poetry upon the classic models with which his training had made him familiar. He was very early impressed with the contrasts of condition which modern society exhibits, and one of his first lyrics was called "The Rich and the Poor." When he was fifteen years old an essay of his on "The Advantages of Study" was pronounced by the French Academy to be the best produced in the competition; but the brave boy missed the prize because his judges would not believe the author of the paper was only fifteen years old!

In 1822, stimulated to exertion (it is said) by "Les Méditations" of Lamartine, he published his "Odes et Ballades," and not very long after his romances of "Han d'Islande" and "Bug-Jargal," both well known in England. In these books it was easy to perceive that the mind of the author was beginning to rebel against "classical" laws of composition; but it was in the drama of "Cromwell," published in 1827, that he first of all openly set up the standard of romanticism. In 1829 M. Hugo produced that wonderful book "Les Derniers Jours d'un Condamné"—a picture of the feelings of a criminal condemned to execution, and, indirectly, an attack upon the institution of capital punishment—an institution which M. Hugo has always set himself to decry.

Passing over a crowd of dramatic efforts—some of which came into collision with the French "censorship," as well as with the classicists—we may come to 1831, and pause at M. Hugo's wonderful "Notre Dame de Paris." From this marvellous work the image of La Esmeralda has passed into the modern mythology and become a permanent figure there. The writer of this sketch was in 1831-2 a child, but he distinctly remembers choosing a picture of La Esmeralda with her tambourine and her goat when a relative who was pleased with him asked him what he should buy him out of a bookshop window. In the interval between the publication of "Notre Dame de Paris" and "Les Misérables" M. Hugo has published little but poetry. Best known among English readers are "Les Chants du Crépuscule," "Les Voix Intérieures," and "Les Rayons et les Ombres."

We have already said that M. Hugo was ennobled by Louis Philippe, and he has shown his recollection of the goodwill of the Citizen King by doing handsome justice to his memory in "Les Misérables." During the short life of the last French Republic Victor Hugo was representative for Paris, and was a vigorous member of the Moderate party. His defence of his son Charles, who was prosecuted for attacking capital punishment, is fresh in the recollections of most newspaper readers as a remarkable

piece of impassioned and logical oratory. This same son of the poet had prepared a dramatic version of "Les Misérables" for the French stage; but it has been interdicted, and even an innocent woodcut of his physiognomy, such as we now present to our readers, has been "suppressed."

Those who know anything of faces and heads will see at a glance that this is the likeness of a man of extraordinary energy, of inexorable conscientiousness, and powerful and elevated intellect. The expression is such as is found only when a fine physique supports the activity of a fine brain. "Les Misérables" is stated to be the result of thirty years' labour, and it was worth that amount of effort to produce such a grand epic of social contrasts.

THE DISTRESS IN LANCASHIRE.

THE deep distress which has overtaken the manufacturing districts is striking the great heart of the British people to its inmost depths. Everywhere organised efforts are being made to raise funds, and everywhere the success that attends the effort is wonderful. Rich and poor, high and low, all seem fully impressed with the urgency of



THE LANCASHIRE DISTRESS.—THE SOUP-KITCHEN, CROOKED-LANE, PRESTON.

the case, and determined that no exertion shall be spared to relieve the suffering of the families of their fellow-countrymen in the north. In any other country, almost, except our own, the sums subscribed would be deemed fabulous; but here, happily, while there is, perhaps, a greater amount of wealth diffused among the community than elsewhere, there is also the disposition to share it with those whom an almost unparalleled misfortune has rendered unable to assist themselves. The London Mansion House Committee alone have received upwards of £200,000 for the purpose of mitigating the evils caused by the collapse of the great cotton industry. Of this sum they have expended nearly £120,000, and are daily receiving contributions at the rate of from £6000 to upwards of £12,000 per day. But this only represents a portion of the relief that is being administered. There are, besides, all the local rates and subscriptions—no inconsiderable amounts—and large contributions of clothing, bedding, coals, food, and other articles. Unfortunately, however, large and generous as the public charity is, it is no more than equal—if, indeed, it is so—to the demands of the emergency. Throughout the whole of Lancashire the distress deepens. In the northern and eastern districts of the county it is, perhaps, on the average, the heaviest; but in the south it is very severe, and in some parts excessive and overwhelming. Trade of every description is depressed; rates in every district are increasing; and pauperism in every town and village is advancing. People begin to say, "Well, the distress cannot go on long at this speed;" but they made a similar assertion six months ago, and still the distress is increasing. The fact is, there are no real signs of a beneficial change taking place for some months to come. What has occurred in the past, in the history of this grand struggle for life, may occur in the future, and the end of the distress may be, so to speak, as far off as ever. The most tangible and satisfactory feature noticeable at the present is the extensive character of the liberality evinced and the excellent machinery now being put into operation in every distressed district for the relief of the poor. Every week better measures are adopted and more benevolence manifested. As this is now the all-important and all-absorbing subject of domestic interest in the country, we propose to devote a portion of our space to the delineation of scenes and incidents presented throughout the manufacturing districts in this the season of their difficulty, and accordingly we this week begin with

PRESTON.

In that town at the present moment there are 40 mills totally stopped, 13,100 operatives entirely out of work, and 53,694 persons in the receipt of relief from either the guardians or the charitable committee, 20 per cent of the population are absolutely pauperised, and 4½ per cent are dependent upon the relief committee for their daily bread. Last week the committee relieved 37,075 persons, at a cost of about £2000. They distributed 31,648 loaves of bread, weighing 66 tons 10cwt. 1qr. and 4lb.; and 43,616 quarts of soup, coffee, and potato-hash. They have likewise given an immense quantity of clothing, fuel, and bedding to the poor. Regarding the food distributed, we are glad to state that a considerable improvement has been made in the latter as to its quantity and quality. This alteration appears somehow to have been forced on the committee. Nearly every contribution received by them has been accompanied with a hope to the effect that they would improve their scale of relief. At last they have done so. Let us hope that further improvements of this sort will be made. Surely, if the contributors urge an increase, committees need not be afraid. The weekly loss of wages here through the commercial depression is estimated at between £13,000 and £14,000. Fever, which had prevailed to a considerable extent some time since, but had abated, is again on the increase, but not to any great extent. It does not appear to be as fatal in its consequences as it was a few weeks ago. These facts give an idea of the extent of the evil in Preston. Let us now take a survey of the means used to mitigate it.

THE RELIEF COMMITTEE AND ITS ORGANISATION.

From the second report of the committee, just issued, we gather that in December of last year it was found necessary to open the soup-kitchen. In February a local subscription for the relief of the distressed operatives was commenced under the auspices of the Mayor, Robert Townley Parker, Esq., which soon amounted to £3000, and was afterwards augmented to £14,680, including second subscriptions, donations from Manchester and from the London Mansion-house Fund. A committee was appointed to make arrangements and administer the funds. This general committee consists of twelve persons, who meet every Monday night. Six of them act as secretaries for the six wards of the town. Each secretary has a staff of visitors, out of whom a committee for the ward is formed. To every district is assigned one or two visitors, whose duty it is to investigate all cases of distress within the district. These are entered in a book according to a printed form. Every case so reported is considered in the ward committee, and the amount of relief to be given in each is there agreed upon. Tickets for relief, according to the quantities ordered, are delivered by the secretary to the visitors, who carry them to the houses of the recipients, which are thus regularly revisited once a week. The number of cases, persons, and quantities of relief are added up, and the secretary of each ward reports the totals to the general committee at its next meeting, with the equivalent sum in money which he requires for the ensuing week. Relief from the general fund is at present granted only in the shape of bread, soup, and coffee. The number of visitors is one hundred and twenty. Their services are entirely gratuitous.

A kitchen for the sick is also established under the management of a few ladies, from which cooked meat, beef tea, broth, and farinaceous compounds are dispensed daily, according to the order in each case of the medical men of the town, to whom printed forms are supplied for the purpose. Much saving of health and life is to be attributed to this most valuable branch of the relief organisation. Under the same management is held a sewing-school for young women on the books of the charitable fund. They are allowed additional relief to the value of one shilling for two days' attendance. They are also permitted to benefit by their own work in making or mending their own garments, or in purchasing at a very reduced price. Some instruction in reading, writing, and arithmetic is combined with the needlework in this school. The sick-kitchen is supported out of the general fund; the sewing-school by special contributions to that object.

A dépôt for clothing, bedding, and coals is just opened, for which a separate fund or funds will probably be contributed. As the present distress continues, extends, and increases, these necessities are becoming more urgent, and if not supplied by the hand of charity, cold will be met by nakedness, and destitution by disease and death.

Last week a meeting was held in Preston to promote a further subscription—the third—"for the distressed operatives." At the conclusion of the business the sum of £174 11s. was raised, and since then the amount has been considerably augmented by local subscriptions and by a donation of £2500 from the London Mansion House Committee. On Saturday last the total sum in the hands of the treasurer was about £18,000. Several new industrial schools and educational classes have been opened in various parts of the town within the past few days. All are well attended and give the greatest satisfaction. The area of the Corn Exchange will likewise be used for educational purposes in a short time. Such is a general outline of what is being done to relieve the distress in Preston. Let us now go a little more into detail in explanation of our Engravings. The central dépôt of the relief committee is situated in Crooked-lane. It is an old mill, taken for the purpose, and, so far as we could learn, is a sort of model for the other towns to follow. The rooms are about 100ft. long. The bread and soup departments are on the ground floor, the clothes-stores on the second, and the bed-making on the third.

THE SOUP-KITCHEN.

This establishment, which was originally opened in December last and has since been greatly enlarged, though designated a "soup-kitchen," will be found to be, in fact, a huge laboratory, where are carried on various branches of labour necessary to supply the poor with the substantial comforts of life. The relief committee have combined in the establishment the dispensation of meat and drink for the hungry and clothing for the naked; and, in a branch

establishment, they take proper care of cases of sickness. But let us describe the establishment.

Obtaining admission by the eastern door, we pass the blue-coated janitor and go through one large room into a smaller one at the end of the building. This is the provision store; and provisions were here truly on an extensive scale. Two men were in attendance, with white caps and white aprons, and they were hard at work, and had been, indeed, as they stole a minute in order to inform us, ever since two o'clock in the morning, cutting up meat and making other preparations for the food distributions of the day. In one corner was a large heap of onions, enough to make anybody's eyes water almost at sight; under the dresser was a second heap, these being carrots. In another corner were bags of rice, peas, and meal. Here was a barrel of pork, which had just been sent by "a good soul of a lady at a distance." There was a weighty barrel of treacle, used for sweetening and rendering more palatable the soup. From hooks on a beam hung joints of meat in thick array; and quite "henspecked" were two fine deer, sent by a benefactor at Gloucester, to enrich the soup. To season the soup withal, in the fourth corner was a little mountain of salt-blocks; beside a goodly quantity of other condiments. Scarcely time had the attendants to answer our inquiries, "for," said they, "we have had already three boilings of meat soup and three of sweet soup, and 200 folks unsupplied are waiting for their share, and it is now only half-past eleven o'clock, and we must get on with some more boilings." By a reference to a book which lay on a little desk we found that on Saturday week the distribution of soup began at the usual hour, six o'clock in the morning, and continued incessantly until eleven at night, and that during that day nine boilings were prepared, and not fewer than 1800 gallons dispensed. On Monday there were prepared two boilings of meat soup, of 200 gallons each, and four of sweet soup, these measuring 800 gallons; making a total of 1200 gallons. It was explained that the difference between the Saturday's and the Monday's quantities arose from the fact that many of the applicants were supplied with basins of soup for their Sunday's repast. On Tuesday there were three boilings of meat soup, and two of sweet; on Wednesday two of meat soup, two of "scouse," and three of sweet soup; and on Thursday, as above stated, three of meat soup and the same number of sweet, with more required. To those who require more than the committee's allowance, or can afford to pay for it, the soup is sold at an almost nominal price.

Let us not hinder the cooks, but visit the dispensers in the large room through which we previously passed. Here a strange sight is presented. The middle of the spacious apartment is barricaded into compartments, the purpose of the central one being exceedingly novel. A printed paper may be seen posted on the walls all around, the inscription being, "Notice.—You must all come clean." Though this requirement is made, yet it is by no means universally acted on; for, as the Recorder recently told the guardians, the people have quite enough to do to procure bread, and cannot all buy soap; and, adding on the Vicar's suggestion that soap should form an ingredient of relief, the committee have provided for such as do not "come clean" a huge tub, which is constantly supplied with clean, hot water, lumps of soap, and rough towels. None of the applicants are allowed to take their soup or bread except such as come clean or put themselves under ablution.

Hard by is the avenue leading to the soup dispensers. This is densely thronged as early as six o'clock in the morning; and as soon as the door is opened in flock the applicants. They present to Cocker (the ticket-collector) their card, and in line moves the procession slowly and orderly; the ticket man cries aloud the quantity to be allowed to each processionist; and if any of them by some unlucky omission is not possessed of the proof of his right to the soup, he or she is referred to a man who stands near, with a placard on his hat and a book of tickets in his hand for sale. All is orderly; indeed, notwithstanding the presence of the officers in blue and the posted regulation, "Be as silent as possible," it is a wonder that a hungry, half-starving mass of people like those who frequent the soup-kitchen are as orderly as they are. It is a credit to them, and another evidence of the patience, the endurance, and fortitude with which the operatives of Lancashire have borne, and are bearing, their unparalleled trial. They are often, indeed, good-natured whilst they await their turn, and many an innocent joke is perpetrated where one might least expect it. One thing we could not but regret—that so many of them should have to stand for hours in the cold atmosphere out of doors before their wants can be supplied. We were glad, however, to find, along the northern side of the large room on the ground floor, two long tables, with forms on each side of them, and that the meal of soup could be partaken on the spot. This was of some service, for the large apartment was quite warm, partly from the nearness of the boilers, the steam from the cookery, and the roaring fire which is constantly kept on an elevated platform of brickwork, and round which sit some dozen women paring potatoes. Those who took their soup within the establishment were required to wash the basins they used and to place them on the dresser; but, in case this was not complied with, a woman was in attendance in the capacity of washer of utensils. Conversing with one or two of the poor people who were sitting at the tables, we were glad to find a prevailing spirit of thankfulness to "the gentlemen" for the benevolent provision which was made for them; for, said one man, "there's newt but th' soup between me and starvation;" and, said another, "if it wurn't for th' soup, half th' town would ha' been dead long ago."

THE BREAD DISTRIBUTION.

But let us hasten to the western end of the kitchen. Here is a small counter, where ward-tickets for bread are received. Here, too, are the contents of carts from the bakers emptied and piled. One formidable heap of loaves had gone, and another batch was being brought in to be in readiness for a second distribution. Mr. James Hunt, who has the superintendence of this department, said that before being passed to the pile every loaf was weighed and the quality tested. The dispensers of loaves, like those of soup, were also early at their work, commencing to give them out at six o'clock in the morning in exchange for the tickets presented.

THE CLOTHING STORE AND WORKROOM.

Reverting to the subject of clothing and bedding, we will go up stairs and see what is being done in that line. The room on the first floor is equal in size to the whole of the rooms on the ground; and, from the appearance it presents, one might imagine that the great Hyam, or even Moses and Son themselves, had opened an emporium in Preston. In the corner, near the door by which we enter, is a pile of mattresses, awaiting distribution to deserving families by way of loan. Turning to the right is an end bench, and at right angles a longer one, extending two-thirds the entire length of the room, and literally groaning beneath the weight of articles of wearing apparel. The end bench was specially devoted to the assorting of the contents of some large bales, boxes, and crates which sympathising friends had sent from a great variety of places. Some of the packages were still unopened. There was a sack of what, by touch, we found were men's hats. On the bench was a varied assortment of clothes—of all sorts, of all qualities, of all sizes—as one attendant assured us, "suitable for all ages, from a little baby just born to an old woman of eighty;" or, as another attendant had it, "suitable for everybody, from the scarlet-coated hunt-man down to the plebeian donkey-driver." There were strings of hats—white and grey ones, good as well as "shocking bad" black ones; "thick block" and stylish French chapeaux; indiarubber and straw; here were lots of caps, from the modish Glengarry to the juvenile's tasselled; here was a string of stockings, "like a regiment of soldiers;" here was another rope of bonnets, from the fashionable cockleshell to the antique coalscuttle; pillow-slips, bedgowns, frocks, dress-pieces, stays, jackets, trousers, ties, vests, coats, *cum multis aliis*, which we have not time to describe. All along, under the benches, and without the waste of an inch of space, were packed some hundreds of trousers, many of them being really of the best cloth and the "cut" being of the most approved fashion, and such as, said a visitor, he would by no means object to wear. There were numerous heaps of blankets, some of these being spread out to dry, having just been painted "P.R.C., 1862, Lent," the object of the inscription being to prevent them from being pawned by those to whom they may be lent, or, at any rate, to put the pawnbrokers

on the qui vive against receiving them in pledge. At the eastern end of this room is a large tailor's board, whereon sit certain knights of the needle engaged in the making and mending of wearing apparel and of sacking, &c., for beds. Most of the space at this end of the room, however, is occupied by the females, sixty-two in number, some of whom have been draughted from the sewing-schools, and others have been sent hither on application, and all of whom, under Mrs. Pemberton, Mrs. Ann Parker, and another matron, are busy plying their needles in the making and repairing of articles of female attire. In a room over this men are cutting straw to mix with the chaff for the beds, and making bedsteads for the reception of the mattresses, which, being of a better sort, might be deteriorated if they were to be allowed to be used on the floor. These mattresses, also intended for loan, were being painted with the initials of the Preston Relief Committee.

We have imperfectly sketched the provisions which are made for the supply of the bodily wants of the unemployed operatives in the matters of food and clothing; but we cannot but repeat, extensive as these may appear, that more, much more, will inevitably be required for that purpose as winter and its concomitants of evil advance; and that, even if the whole of the 500 bales of clothing so generously sent to the Lord Mayor for the Lancashire operatives were sent to Preston, they could be disposed of, and yet no family would have more than sufficient. The first distribution of clothing, on a small scale and for experimental purposes, has already been begun; but the whole of the articles sent will soon be given out, so many needy cases are there.

THE MARRIAGE OF THE PRINCE OF WALES.—The marriage of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales will be solemnised at the Chapel Royal, St. George's, Windsor, early in April next. The walls of the Robbers-room, or King's Drawing-room, at Windsor Castle, have just been hung with a rich crimson figured satin, the pattern being the Royal Arms. The Council Chamber has also been hung with crimson damask satin, the design being a wreath of laurels surrounding the Royal crown. The picture-frames in these rooms have all been repolished. It is thirty years since the walls of the apartments were decorated in a similar manner.

SESSION OF A CLERGYMAN FROM THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.—The Rev. William Lincoln, of Beresford Episcopalian Chapel, Wadworth, on Sunday evening announced to his congregation his intention of seceding from the Church of England. He stated that when he viewed the connection of the Church with the State and the world, he was convinced it was that Babylon out of which real Christians were commanded to come. He intended to join a Free Church, which should be partly Independent, partly Baptist, and partly Plymouth Brethren. The Rev. gentleman is going to publish a work in which he will give the reasons for the step he has taken.

THE EPISCOPAL CHANGES.—The Most Rev. Dr. Longley, Archbishop Elect of Canterbury, will, it is understood, take formal possession of his diocese on Thursday, the 4th of December, on which day the ceremony of enthronement will take place in Canterbury Cathedral, in the presence probably of several Bishops and ecclesiastical dignitaries of the southern province. The archbishopric of York will then be declared vacant, and Dr. Thomson, Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, will be gazetted to the northern primacy. The new Archbishops will take their seats in the House of Lords on the reassembling of Parliament, and the new Bishop of Gloucester will for the present be without a seat, under the Manchester Bishops Act.

NEW MODE OF MAKING BANK-NOTES.—A new mode of engraving and printing bank-notes has been brought forward by Messrs. Ashby and Co., which is asserted to possess the recommendations—1. That they cannot be photographed, as the black printing is interlaced, in an extremely complicated manner, with another colour; 2. That the note-plates cannot be copied, the ornamental engraving being executed by a machine from a matrix arbitrarily formed and made intricate by transposition in kaleidoscope fashion; and, 3. That note-plates engraved by such a matrix cannot be produced again by the engravers without the matrix, so that if that is destroyed, or handed to the custody of the bankers, they hold their own security.

THE WAR IN CIRCASSIA.—A RUSSIAN GENERAL KILLED.—A correspondent writes from Soujak-Kale (Circassia):—"The Governor of Ekaterinodar, on his way to visit General Evdokimoff, was surprised, between Lala and the Kulan, by a party of mounted Negrals, and taken prisoner. On descending to the plain the General's coachman lashed his horses into a gallop, expecting to escape, on which the Negrals fired a volley, and, unfortunately, a ball hit the leg of one of the carriage-horses, which caused both the animals and the carriage to be upset." According to the Negrals' account, the General was so much shocked or frightened that he died on the spot; but whether any violence was used has not as yet been ascertained. The authorities at Ekaterinodar offered a liberal sum for the body of the General, which being accepted the remains have been forwarded to the family of the deceased. The capture of the fort at Hattave, on the river Hatakum, by the mountaineers has been confirmed. The remainder of the garrison at Kamkety has abandoned it, retiring on Malkop.

THE PNEUMATIC DISPATCH.—The transmission of parcels and small goods from station to station through a confined iron tube by means of atmospheric exhaustion and pressure will soon be commenced. The London and North-Western Railway Company having granted a site for a station and receiving-house, rent free, at Euston-square, a few yards from the clearing-house, the directors of the Pneumatic Dispatch Company at once commenced operations by laying down beneath the roadway of Upper Seymour-street a line of iron tubing about half a mile in length, and extending from that terminus to the post-office in Eversholt-street, under the superintendence of their engineer, Mr. T. W. Remond. Within the iron tube, which is about 2ft. 9in. high and 2ft. 6in. wide (its section being similar to that of a railway tunnel in miniature) are two small ledges, or rails, on which the wheels of the small cars bearing the parcels will run. These will be propelled backwards and forwards, on the signal being given by the exhaustion and pressure of the air in the tube. The immense disc and chamber in which it revolves have been removed from Battersea, and are being erected within the walls of the station and receiving-house. The disc, or wheel, is 2ft. in diameter. It is composed of three sheets of wrought iron, the two which form the outside being each about an eighth of an inch in thickness, while the centre and smaller plate is about a quarter of an inch thick. These are screwed on to sixteen spokes, which radiate from the centre of the wheel, and thus form thirty-two cavities, there being a distance between the plates at the rim of nearly two inches. Air chambers pass beneath the disc, which are exhausted by its revolutions in the receiving-chamber. The wheel will be worked by a diagonal direct-acting high-pressure engine of about 15-horse power. As regards the speed which will be attained, the railway company have only stipulated for a minimum of fifteen miles, but from experiments it has been shown that a speed of thirty-five miles can be attained. This, no doubt, will prove a most important acquisition to the Post Office in the quick delivery of the mails. A number of workmen are now engaged in the construction of this line, which is expected to be finished in about a month's time. Arrangements have been made with Messrs. Pickford and Co., who have offered a site for the proposed station in Graham-street at a small rent. It is also proposed to form stations at Smithfield and Holborn-hill, which will be suitable for the large and small parcels traffic.

SINGULAR ADVENTURE OF A MARINE IN CHINA.—On Saturday morning a court-martial assembled on board the flag-ship Victory, at Portsmouth, to try a private in the Royal Marines, named James Kent, late of her Majesty's gun-boat Janus, for desertion to the rebel Chinese while the ship was at Shanghai. The gun-boat Janus was, in February, 1861, commanded by Lieutenant Davidson, and on the 20th of that month prisoner received leave for forty-eight hours to go on shore. Before doing so he borrowed a monkey jacket of a comrade, leaving his other clothes and medal on board. He never returned to his ship, as appeared from the following entry in the log-book:—"46th Company.—James Kent, Feb. 22, 1861, deserted to Chinese rebel army from leave at Shanghai." It appears that a number of boys and men deserted to the rebels, and that a system of "crimping" was carried on to induce British seamen to desert. The Janus went no the river to capture deserters. It was stated in the course of the inquiry that the Janus remained off Shanghai for two months after prisoner left her, and he had ample opportunity, had he chosen, to have returned on board. Prisoner had never been known to break his leave before. In defence the prisoner stated that, after having obtained leave, he went on shore, became intoxicated, and lost his senses. On regarding his reason he discovered that he was on board a rebel junk, about thirty miles up the river, underatches. The rebel Chinese on board endeavoured to induce him to fight for them, but he refused. Then they threatened to murder him, and took him before a mandarin, who ordered an iron band to be placed round his body, next his skin, and that he be chained to a wall. This order was obeyed, and he remained chained for fifteen months, except now and then being released to march round the town. His diet was very unwholesome, and he was used in a very cruel manner because he would not fight for the rebels. He made three unsuccessful attempts to escape, each time being captured and punished. At length the allied troops attacked the city and effected a breach in the walls. When in a perilous situation he made known to some European soldiers that he was an Englishman. He was saved from being shot by the French, and taken on board an English ship and brought home. He trusted the Court would consider his case favourably, as he never intended to desert, but, on the contrary, used his utmost endeavours to return to his ship. The Court found the charge of desertion not proved, but were of opinion that prisoner had absented himself without leave, for which offence they sentenced him to six weeks' imprisonment, with hard labour, in Winchester Gaol, and to forfeit two days' pay.

AT THE LYCEUM THEATRE, on Tuesday night, a young man named Graham became very excited during the performance, made a great noise, and, on being remonstrated with, attacked the constable with a knife and wounded him severely. The youth is believed to be labouring under temporary insanity.

PRINCE ALFRED AND THE GREEK THRONE.

VARIOUS and frequent reports arrive from Greece touching the supposed candidature of Prince Alfred. The election of his Royal Highness is said to be certain. A telegram from Athens says it is believed in that city that the English Minister has consulted his Government with respect to the demonstrations taking place in favour of Prince Alfred, and the English Government is stated to have replied that the Minister should in no way endeavour to influence the election. The great probability of Prince Alfred's election (says another telegram) has caused some excitement amongst the foreign Ministers. Orders, over a third telegram (received through Paris), have been sent to Corfu from London to make preparations in that island for the reception of Prince Alfred.

The desire shown by the Greeks to elect Prince Alfred for their future Sovereign is the leading topic in all the continental journals. The *Independence Belge* goes so far as to assert that the French Cabinet has demanded explanations and a disavowal, and that the question was to be considered at a Cabinet Council in London at the beginning of this week. So much importance is attached, it is said, to the reply, that M. Drouyn de Lhuys will go expressly from Compiegne to Paris to receive it from Lord Cowley.

The *Nord* is greatly disturbed at the appearance of affairs. It says:—

Public opinion cannot reconcile the manoeuvres of the English agents in favour of Prince Alfred, supported by a great display of maritime forces, with the disavowals proceeding from London. It understands still less how Greeks, who know by experience what English policy is in the Levant, can let themselves be carried away by the dream of an annexation of the Ionian Islands, when it is very evident that what England aims at is an indirect annexation of the continent to those islands.

The *Presse* says:—

In Greece the manifestation in favour of Prince Alfred of England is becoming very serious. It is actively supported by the former insurgents of Naxos, who have returned to Athens. With them are political personages whose influence is not without weight, such as Mavrocordato, Trikoupi, Koufos, and Zaimis. The masses of the people are dazzled by the brilliant perspective which the support of England opens to them; first, a large increase of pecuniary resources; next, an aggrandisement of territory, and the probable annexation of the Ionian Islands. The demonstrations of the people in the various localities seem to form a sort of plébiscite which will weigh upon the decisions of the future National Assembly. Is the hand of the English Government in this movement? Must we see in it only a spontaneous impulse or the intrigues of a few ambitious people. In either case it takes a character so general that other candidates are not spoken of.

The *Debats* inclines to the opinion that England only allows the name of Prince Alfred to be used in order that it may sacrifice it generously when the hour comes, on the condition of the sacrifice of the Duke of Leuchtenburg also. "The English people," says the *Debats*, "have never pushed the chivalrous love of their princes to such an extent as to cut off any part of the nation's domain to give them with a foreign throne an increased territory, especially when war might be the result of an act so magnanimous."

The *Constitutionnel* reminds the Greeks of the necessity of observing treaties, especially a certain clause which excludes from the throne the members of the reigning families of France, Russia, and England. The *Temps* replies to this:—"We thought that we had done with this diplomatic fetishism. The only way of respecting and practising non-intervention in Greece is to leave the Greeks perfectly free to seek where they like the Prince that pleases them."

La France indites a solemn remonstrance upon the subject, declaring that the situation is full of gravity, and warning England not to disturb the equilibrium of Europe by seeking to obtain a preponderating influence over Greece. Surely it is quite time for some authoritative voice to settle this question, and put an end to so much extravagant rumour, wild conjecture, and innocent self-delusion.

Some Greeks resident in Paris have, it is stated, got up a sort of protest against the election of a British Prince. Meanwhile it is reported that efforts are being made to get up an annexation movement in Albania, and that an Albanian proclamation calls on Prince Skanderbeg (the descendant of the celebrated Albanian hero) to assume an open and active leadership.

Several French ships of war have been ordered to reinforce the squadron in the Greek waters. In Greece itself everything seems to progress very quietly, although slight disturbances, all easily repressed, have taken place in various quarters. The measures of the Provisional Government were generally approved and supported by the public. The elections were to take place between the 6th and the 19th of December.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

TOTNES.—Mr. John Dent, of the firm of Dent, Palmer, and McKillop, China merchants, will, it is said, oppose Mr. John Pender, in the Conservative interest, at Totnes.

SOUTHAMPTON.—The Lord Mayor of London has issued an address to the electors stating that, from the satisfactory assurances of support he received in his canvass, he is determined to go to the poll.

ANDOVER.—The death of Mr. Coles, M.P. for this borough, which occurred a few days ago, has caused a vacancy in the representation; and it is expected that either Mr. Cullitt, late Lord Mayor of London and formerly M.P. for Andover, or his son-in-law, Mr. W. H. Humphrey, barrister, will start in the Conservative interest.

THE CULTIVATION OF COTTON IN QUEENSLAND.—The operations in connection with cotton cultivation last season were insignificant in comparison with these which are now being undertaken. These operations, however, although comparatively speaking on a small scale, were highly successful, and full of promise for the future. All the companies in existence last year have been encouraged by the result of their speculation hitherto, and they all intend to greatly enlarge the sphere of their operations during the approaching season. New companies have also been organised, and private capitalists are forming extensive plantations on their own account. If the approaching season be a favourable one the result of all these operations will have the effect of attracting British capital to our shores to a greater extent than at present. The Government is empowered to grant land in fee simple, in blocks of not less than 320 acres and not more than 1280 acres, to persons who will accept it for purposes of cotton cultivation, and who will undertake to spend capital in the proportion of £5000 to each 640 acres within two years. As the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Herbert, observed in the course of a debate on this subject, the object of placing this power in the hands of the Government was to attract the attention of European and American capitalists to these shores. On the rivers and creeks along our seaboard there are innumerable acres of land, the best for the purpose that could be found anywhere.—*Queensland Guardian*.

THE PRICE OF BREAD IN LONDON AND PARIS.—In an article on the baking-trade in Paris, the *Patrie* draws a comparison between the price of bread in that city and in London, and affirms that, although the cost of flour is about the same in the two capitals, bread is dearer in London. "It results," says our contemporary, "from the table we give, that, during the first ten months of the present year, bread of the first quality has been sold in London 20 per cent dearer than in Paris, and of the second quality 25 per cent dearer. The dearer of bread in London, compared with the Paris price, is explained naturally. The English bakers, in spite of all competition, exercise the liberty which they possess to obtain a larger profit than that of the bakers in Paris, whose prices are fixed by the authorities. If the documents collected by the Minister of Commerce did not demonstrate that the price of bread is higher in London than in Paris, plain common sense alone would show that it could not be otherwise. In fact, we have seen that London contains 3000 bakers for 3,000,000 of inhabitants, whilst in Paris, for a population of 2,000,000 there are only 900. Each English baker is, therefore, obliged to obtain his profits from a thousand customers, who eat very little bread, whilst the Paris baker draws his from eighteen hundred consumers, who eat a great deal. As the London baker has at least as heavy expenses as the Paris one, it is evident that he can only make up for the difference by raising the price of what he sells. He would be obliged to raise it still higher if he had not in addition a large compensation in the baking of meat for families, which in London is practised on a large scale. The economical results obtained in Paris at the Scipion Bakery have made a great impression on the English. In England the advantage which the creation of large establishments for the manipulation of bread presents is appreciated quite as much as by the French." The writer then refers to the investigation lately instituted by the Government authorities to ascertain the exact state of the baking-trade in London, and mentions the dreadful state of filth which has been shown to exist in the making of bread in that city. Hence the marked favour with which the announcement was received in London of the approaching formation of a vast baking-company, with a capital of half a million sterling, to manufacture bread by machinery, which plan, if even unattended with lower prices, would at least possess the inestimable advantage of securing cleanliness. The writer in the French journal insists on the necessity of maintaining in Paris the present system of fixing the price of bread regularly, as otherwise, he argues, that first necessity of life would become gradually dearer, as has occurred in London.

THE NEW FIELD MARSHALS.

THE following is a recapitulation of the services of the recently-gazetted Field Marshals:—His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge entered the Army in 1837, with the nominal rank of Colonel, and did duty with the 12th and 17th Dragoons and 33rd Foot, and subsequently commanded the Dublin district. In 1852 he became Colonel of the Scots Fusilier Guards. At the outbreak of the Russian War he proceeded with the Guards to Scutari, and subsequently commanded the first division of the Army. He was in the thickest of the fight at the battles of Alma and Inkerman, and in the latter his horse was killed under him. He was also present at Balaklava and during a great portion of the siege of Sebastopol. On the death of Lord Hardinge his Royal Highness was appointed Commander-in-Chief, a post which he has filled with the hearty approbation of the Army and to the entire satisfaction of the public.

Viscount Gough commenced his military career in 1791, and served at the Cape of Good Hope against the Dutch in that year. Next year he was again fighting in the West Indies. In the Peninsular War he commanded the 87th Regiment at Talavera (where he was wounded), at Barossa, Nivelles (wounded a second time), at Vittoria, and at the defence of Cadiz, where he was once more wounded. The 87th was fortunate enough to capture an eagle at Barossa and the baton of Marshal Jourdain at Vittoria. After a long period of comparative inaction he was appointed to command the forces in China, in 1842; and, at the termination of hostilities, he was made a Baronet and G.C.B. From 1843 to 1846 he was actively engaged against the Mahattas and Sikhs; and the battles of Moodkee, Ferozeshah, Sobroon, and Gojerat will always be identified with his name. It was after the last-named battle that this gallant officer was created a peer. He was appointed to the colonelcy of the Royal Horse Guards in 1855, and specially proceeded to Sebastopol to distribute the honours so hardly won by the army.

Sir Edward Blakeley also entered the Army in 1791 as Cornet, but he speedily changed into the infantry, and commenced an active career in 1796 in the West Indies. In 1807 he was present at the capture of the Danish fleet and surrender of Copenhagen, and in 1809 he served at the capture of Martinique. In 1811 he commanded the 7th Foot, and was present at the battles of Busaco, Albuera (in the latter of which he was severely wounded), sieges of Ciudad Rodrigo and Badajoz (wounded a second time); and he was also engaged at Vittoria, Pampeluna, the Pyrenees, and Nivelles. In 1814 he served at New Orleans, and next year joined the Duke of Wellington's army in Belgium. He was Commander of the Forces in Ireland for some time, and on being made Lieutenant-Governor of the Royal Hospital at Chelsea was succeeded by Lord Seaton. Sir Edward was appointed to the colonelcy of the 1st Foot in 1851.

Lord Clyde commenced his military career in 1808, and with the 9th Foot was engaged at Vimiera and Corunna, Vittoria, St. Sebastian, Passage of the Bidassoa, and was three times severely wounded. In 1811 he served in America with the 60th Rifles. In 1842 he served under Lord Gough in China, commanding the 98th Regiment. In 1848 he commanded a division of the Army of the Punjab, under Sir Charles Napier, and was wounded at Chillianwallah; he was also present at Gojerat. In 1851 and 1852 he was actively employed against the hill tribes, and returned to England only to proceed once more on active service in command of the Highland Brigade, with which he remained during the Crimean War. He had not been long at home before the Indian Mutiny broke out; and Lord Pamure, then Secretary of State for War, decided upon placing the appointment of Commander-in-Chief in India in his hands. The gallant old soldier made his decision at once. We believe the offer was made and accepted one afternoon in the private walk which leads from the office in Pall-mall to the Mall in St. James's Park, and that Sir Colin Campbell was on his way to India before twenty-four hours had expired. His distinguished services during the mutiny, for which he was raised to the peerage, need not be enlarged upon. Lord Clyde was appointed to the colonelcy of the Coldstream Guards in 1860.

RECRUITING IN THE SOUTH.

The Conscription Act passed by the Confederate Congress went into operation on May 16, 1862. By this law all able-bodied white male citizens between the ages of eighteen and thirty-five were actually taken into the service; that is, they were taken from their homes, placed in camps of instruction, and forwarded to the armies in the field as fast as needed. Another clause of the Act required the enrolling of all between the ages of thirty-five and fifty-five years, as a reserve militia, to serve in their own State in case of invasion. As their States have all been "invaded," this virtually sweeps into the Southern army all white men able to bear arms between eighteen and fifty-five years of age. Another clause provided that all persons then in the army under eighteen and over thirty-five might return home discharged from the service within ninety days after the Act took effect, provided their regiments were filled up with conscripts. By this provision the regiments would be kept full. Still another clause directed that the twelve-months men now in the service, should "be allowed" (i.e., required), "at the expiration of their twelve months, to elect new officers, and take the oath for two years of the war." Under this last clause, the reorganization of the twelve-months volunteers was going forward at Corinth when the 5th Tennessee regiment of volunteers, composed of Warren county boys, Colonel J. B. Hill commanding, determined they would not be forced to continue their service, and especially out of their own State. Before this determination had entirely taken form the officers were apprised of the disaffection, and resolved, with true military decision to forestall the threatened mutiny. The regiment was marched out some distance from camp and drilled for an hour or two, and then allowed to stack arms and return to camp for dinner. While in camp their arms were removed, and 30,000 men drawn up—15,000 on each side of a hollow square, with a battery of ten fieldpieces, loaded with grape, guns at their post, occupying a third side, while the fourth was open. Into this space the regiment was marched without arms, and requested all of them who were free to do so to take the oath. After its administration to the regiment in a body, the Colonel said if there were any members who had not voluntarily sworn, they could step out in front of the ranks. Six men advanced, two of them brothers, and remonstrated that they had cheerfully volunteered for one year, had served faithfully, and endured every hardship without complaint and without furlough; had left their families without means of support, who must now be suffering; that if allowed to go home and rest and make some provision for wife and children, they would then return. Colonel Hill, who was from the neighbourhood of these men, knew the truth and felt the force of their arguments, and was trying by kindness to satisfy their minds, when General Beauregard rode up and asked—

"Colonel Hill, do these men refuse to swear?"

"Yes, Sir."

"Unless they comply, have them shot to-morrow morning at ten o'clock," said the General, and rode away.

Before ten o'clock they had all taken the oath; but one of the two brothers, in his rage, declared he would desert. For this he would have been shot, had he not acknowledged himself wrong and professed penitence, though his resolution remained unshaken.—"Thirteen Months in the Rebel Army." By an Impressed New Yorker.

THE EX-KING AND QUEEN OF NAPLES.—The ex-King of Naples has sent Prince Farini as special envoy to Munich pre-emptorily to demand the return of his consort. A decided negative is said to have been the reply, and it is said all hope of her Majesty's return is now abandoned. It is a rather curious fact that at this moment the little kingdom of Bavaria harbours no less than six crowned heads—a rather considerable number for a population of little more than four millions. They are—the reigning King Maximilian II., the ex-monarch Ludwig, King Otto I. of Greece, Queen Maria of Bavaria, Queen Amelia of Greece, and the consort of Francis II. of Naples.

MEETING OF CATHOLICS ON BLACKHEATH.—During last week a call was made on Catholics, and especially Irish Catholics, to meet on Sunday on Blackheath and pass resolutions of sympathy with the Pope. The Catholic clergy, however, denounced the meeting at every service in every chapel in London on Sunday morning, and strongly urged on their congregations to take no part in what they called an unwise and unnecessary demonstration. Their denunciations and appeals, however, did not prevent the gathering. The London Irishmen were to meet in Bermondsey-square, and thence proceed to Blackheath. They did meet; but the police prevented them from forming into procession. A portion of them subsequently made their way to Blackheath, where they joined with men from Deptford and Greenwich. The meeting then took place, and a resolution denouncing Garibaldi and sympathising with the Pope was carried. The proceedings were of an orderly character—a circumstance which seems to have been rather in spite of the speeches which were delivered, and solely because nobody was fool enough or illiberal enough to interfere. We hope that the partisans of his Holiness will, in future, imitate this forbearance, and let others who may happen to differ from them have as free expression for their opinions as the Catholics have enjoyed on this occasion.

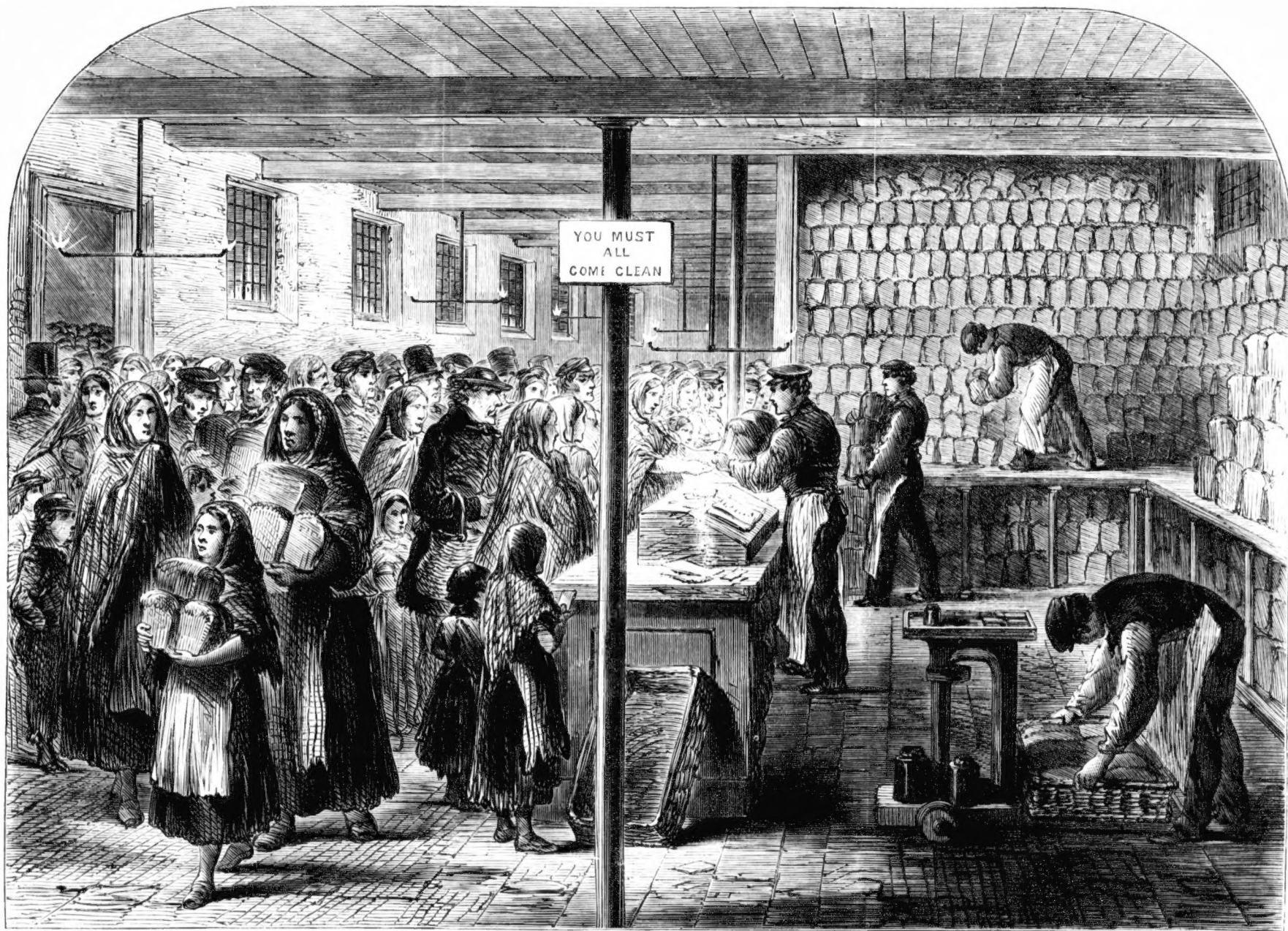
EXTRAORDINARY CASE OF JUDICIAL ERROR.

It is doubtful whether all the collections of *causes célèbres* in the world contain such an extraordinary case of judicial error as the one which has just been redressed by the Assize Court of the Somme. On Aug. 13, 1861, the Assize Court of the Nord found a young married woman, named Rosalie Gardin, guilty of the murder of her father, Martin Dolze, and the jury, having, out of compassion, given her the benefit of "extenuating circumstances," she was sentenced to imprisonment with hard labour for life. The evidence against her raised nothing more than a case of slight suspicion, founded upon her having been at times on bad terms with her father, but she had confessed to a matron of the prison of Hazebrouck, and to the Judge of Instruction, that she did commit the murder, and, although she retracted this confession at the trial, both judge and jury believed her first statement, and she was convicted on the strength of it. There is now not a shadow of doubt that this woman was innocent. She passed upwards of a year in penal servitude, pursuant to her sentence, during which time she constantly expressed a confident trust that God would one day prove her innocence, and whenever she wrote to her husband she begged him to expend money in masses. On Aug. 16, 1862, the same Assize Court, upon overwhelming evidence, strengthened by a full confession, found that Martin Dolze was murdered by two notorious robbers named Vanhalwyn and Verhamme, and sentenced them, the one to death and the other to hard labour for life. The Court of Cassation then quashed both these verdicts on the ground that they were incompatible the one with the other, and sent the three prisoners to be tried *de novo* by the Assize Court of the Somme. At this new trial it was proved conclusively that the murder was committed by Vanhalwyn and Verhamme, who, moreover, renewed their confessions. But how did it happen that the poor woman Gardin, of so sound mind, charged herself truly with the frightful crime of parricide? The answer, the shocking, the heartrending answer is, that she was goaded into confession by the torture of solitary confinement. For two long months this innocent woman, who, moreover, was innocent of her first child at the time, was locked up by herself in a cell with which air and light were only admitted by an aperture of five inches square, made by the removal from the wall of a single brick. The sole furniture of this horrible dungeon was a fetid two and a straw mattress laid on a brick floor. The mattress was daily taken away to be aired pursuant to sanitary regulations, and then the unfortunate creature, who never had a chair to sit upon, could not even lie down, except upon the cold bricks. The prison matron, who brought her the daily prison food, told her continually that if she would confess she would be taken out of that place and would not have her head cut off. This woman was herself a convicted prisoner in a state of probation, and it was her interest to curry favour with authority by extracting confessions. At the end of the two months the poor woman, whose terrible position was aggravated by those nervous feelings and fancies which notoriously accompany the advent of mortality, felt herself abandoned by God and man, at least in this world; the idea struck her that if what the woman constantly told her was true, that by a confession she might get out of the "black hole," and prevent her "head being cut off" (these are her own expressions), she would at any rate be spared to bring her child alive into the world. This natural and mysterious feeling was not, doubtless, expressed in poetical or polished language. The much-to-be-commiserated victim is in a very humble rank of life, and speaks no language but the Flemish of French Flanders. Her answers to the interrogatories of the Judge were conveyed through an interpreter. This circumstance serves to diminish the astonishment which must be felt at the mistake committed by the Assize Court of the Nord. The convict-prison matron, however, eagerly reported to her superiors that Rosalie Gardin had confessed her crime, and therefore the prisoner, against whom no evidence had been found, was ushered into the study of the Judge of Instruction. This functionary, who, without being more cruel than the rest of mankind, feels as much professional pleasure in hunting down a prisoner as a Leicestershire huntsman in recovering a cold scent, invited Rosalie Gardin to repeat her confession. She, being restored to the light of day, said at first that she had told a story, and that she did not murder her father; but when he spoke severely to her, the fear of being immediately sent back to the "black hole" operated so strongly upon her nerves that she repeated the false avowal, and the Judge forthwith recorded it against her, doubtless with such "addition" and rhetorical aggravation as it is the "nature" of the Judges of Instruction to indulge in. Poor Rosalie gave birth to her child—the first child—prematurely in prison, and, as is not astonishing, this offspring did not live long. At the new trial, which took place last week, the innocence of Rosalie was made to appear as clear as day. She was acquitted.

SOCIETY IN GUERNSEY AND JERSEY.

The higher ranks in both islands assimilate in their general habits to the educated classes in country and cathedral towns in England and elsewhere. There is, however, a perceptible difference. Cliqués naturally and perhaps necessarily exist in a society where the whole private history of everybody is known and remembered. Owing, also, to the small number of families and the constant intermarriages of their members, nearly all those mixing in daily intercourse are cousins, more or less nearly related. Strangers cannot expect, nor would they perhaps always desire, to be admitted to the intimacy thus induced; but they are hardly prepared, at first, for the apparent neglect that is a natural if not inevitable consequence of this, and to which they are often exposed. They are, in fact—especially in Guernsey—admitted rather than encouraged. This is noticeable in the ballroom, where matters are left to take their own course, and English ladies have but little chance. At a period not very distant society in Guernsey (to which island these remarks chiefly refer) grouped itself into two divisions—one including those families who prided themselves on ancient descent and landed estates, and who regarded themselves as the *par son*—and the other, those whose fortunes had chiefly been made during the late war, or in trade. The former were called *vicars* (apparently from the number of families at one time admitted within the ranks), the latter were the *forties*. It is the fashion now to ignore these names, but the feelings that prompted them undoubtedly exist, and are sometimes very plainly expressed. The educational advantages open to the forties by their ample means, and fully made use of by them, have, however, effectually done away with any difference in manners that may formerly have been noticeable. The divisions of society among the natives in Jersey have been quite as much marked as in Guernsey, but are more political than social. They are known as the *Laurel* and *Rose* factions respectively. As, however, in Jersey the English residents form so large a proportion of the inhabitants as to make up several distinct societies, there is much less dependence on the islanders than in Guernsey, where the English element is extremely small in comparison, and not sufficient to act independently. A certain kind of hospitality is freely shown to strangers who bring good introductions, and visits are readily interchanged with them; but owing, no doubt, to the closeness of the family ties already alluded to, these visits rarely result in much sociability or neighbourly intercourse with those who take up their abode in the island for a season. In this respect, country society in England is decidedly superior. The chief inducement, at present, to a residence in the Channel Islands, independently, of course, of the reasonable wish to investigate their natural beauties, is hardly so much their cheapness as the smallness of the society and the much simpler style of the various establishments. Rents are hardly lower than in England, and food is scarcely cheaper. Wine, tea, and tobacco, being free of duty, are cheaper, but rarely good. Good servants are extremely difficult to obtain, and their wages are not lower than in English country places. In these respects, the west of England is probably quite as economical. The visits of the tax-gatherer, however, are unknown; and, for some reason or other, many of the small luxuries of life are obtainable at little cost, and many others which are more expensive are, by common consent, done without. There are few persons in either of the islands with incomes that would in England be considered large, but a very considerable number of families provided with moderate incomes which are rarely equalled by the family expenditure. Most of the sons of island families leave the islands early, many of them going into the Army or Navy, and others into professions; but, with that peculiar feeling which is so often noticed in the inhabitants of small countries and mountainous districts, these almost invariably endeavour to return to their early home, first to marry a cousin, and afterwards to reside, when they have realised a small competence. The island families are thus continued, and the familiar names repeated in every variety of combination.—*The Channel Islands*.

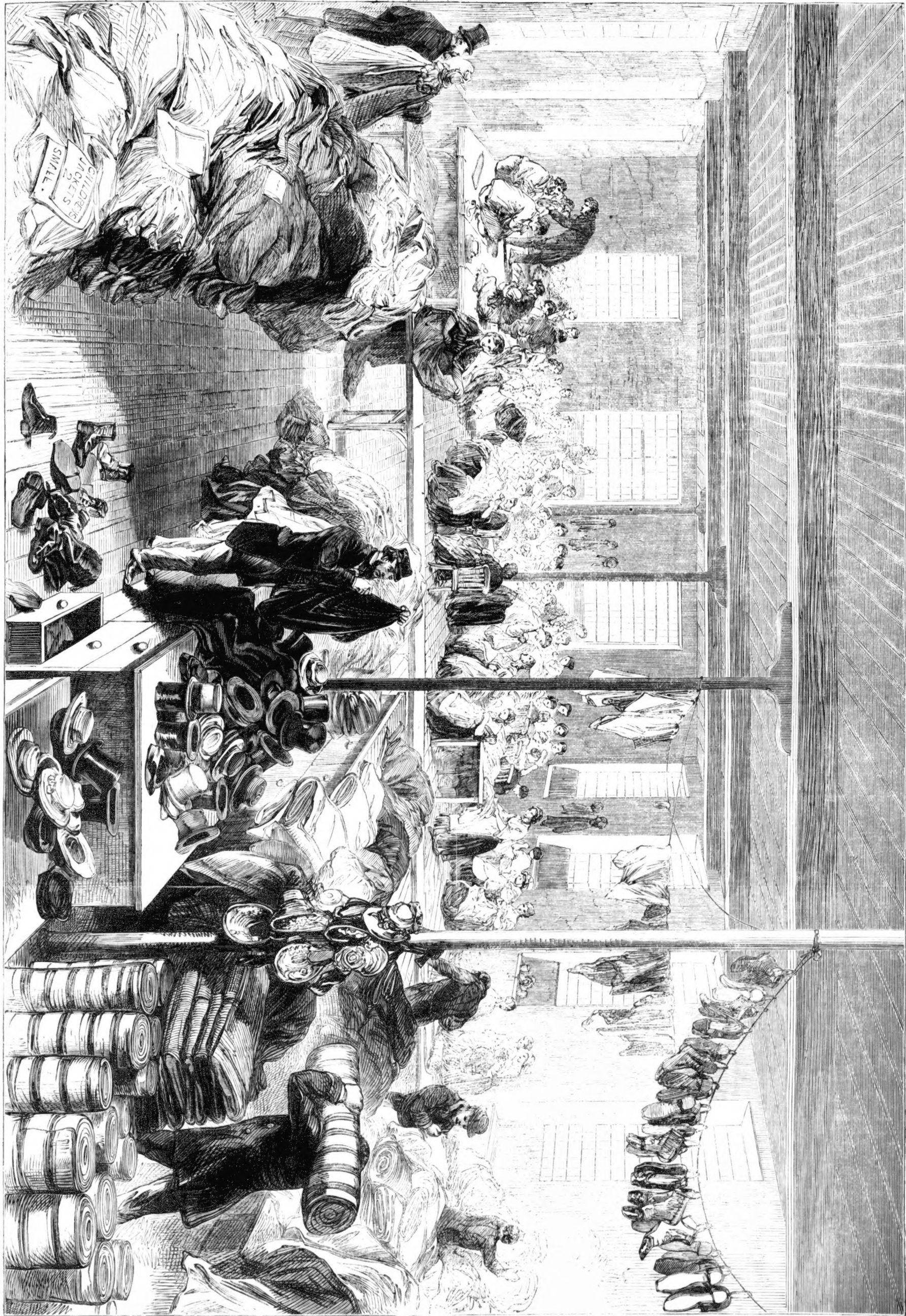
TICKET-OF-LEAVE MEN.—Sir Joshua Jebb has unfortunately endeavoured to soothe the public concerning the rapid increase of garrotting and similar crimes by statistics which are partly irrelevant and partly false witnesses for the facts to establish which Sir Joshua Jebb cites them. He says crime is diminishing, because in 1861 there were only 123,049 members known to belong to the criminal classes, while in 1860 there were 131,024 members of these classes; in other words, fewer by 775 than in the previous year. We can scarcely believe Colonel Jebb's statements to be bona fide. The compiler of the *Judicial Statistics*, from which these numbers are taken, himself explains away the diminution. In many districts, he says, there had been a police custom of entering among "known thieves and depredators" all once convicted of crime, even though leading an honest life in the year in which they were thus catalogued. This practice was interdicted by the authorities; and mainly, no doubt, in consequence of this change of practice we have a diminution of 7752 in this class, a considerably larger number than Sir Joshua Jebb's total decrease. Does this zealous administrator of convict law think that the public needs a little opiate to its excited imagination, and that for that purpose false figures will do as well as true, if they have a reassuring look? The figures of 1861 have very little to do, in any case, with the present outcry, since the complaint is that ticket-of-leave men—"Jebb's Own," a contemporary has dubbed them—are making very active play in 1862. If it were true it would be little comfort for us garrotted martyrs to know that a year ago the crime had begun to decrease; but if there be anywhere a visionary imagination to which Sir Joshua Jebb's statement gave hope that he was at last incubating in his dreary nest some promising result of his convict system, we are sorry to be compelled to state that the egg is added.—*Spectator*.



THE DISTRESS IN LANCASHIRE.—DISTRIBUTING BREAD AT THE CROOKED-LANE DEPOT, PRESTON.



WAITING FOR BEDDING AT THE RELIEF COMMITTEE'S STORE, PRESTON.—SEE PAGE 497.



THE DISTRESS IN LANCASHIRE.—THE RELIEF COMMITTEE'S STORE AND WORK ROOM AT PRESTON.—SEE PAGE 507.

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1862.

STORING UP FIRE.

EVERYBODY'S business, the old axiom tells us, is nobody's business. The adage is more paradoxical than true. The whole object of legislation, of public spirit, and, it may be added, of the public press, is to controvert this maxim, so essentially false, selfish, and injurious. Another adage of far higher antiquity—dating even from the classic period in the language of which it is embodied—says, "It becomes your own business when your next neighbour's house is blazing."

A few days since another great fire happened in the centre of London. Like most of those gigantic accidents of the kind which have happened of late years, the destruction and the danger were not those incident to ordinary domestic life, but to the collection and storing in huge warehouses of materials, not only inflammable in the highest degree, but absolutely inextinguishable by any known means except the simple one of being burned out. An enormous quantity of oil, stowed in extensive warehouses to the west of Blackfriars-bridge, became ignited, and no exertions of the firemen could stay the conflagration until cask after cask of inflammable matter had exploded and discharged their burning contents into the Thames. Even there the flames lost not their power, but burned barges moored within their reach. It was fortunate that such a disaster had not happened just below bridge. Had it occurred on the margin of the Pool none can imagine what might have been the extent of the calamity. Half the crews of the hundreds of vessels there congregated would have been on shore, and, amid the crowd of shipping, the confusion of the sudden alarm, and the utter impracticability of using small boats, the loss of life as well as of commercial property might have been overwhelming. It would have been equal to that which the worst enemy of the kingdom might have regarded as a glorious success of an invading expedition. And yet the whole blame of this peril would have lain upon no foreign foe, but proximately upon British merchants, and remotely but clearly upon the insufficient state of British municipal law.

So far back at least as the reign of Charles II., immediately after the Great Fire of London, statutory provision was attempted to be made against the recurrence of a like visitation. It is to Acts of Parliament of that period we owe the present construction of London streets, the use of brick instead of wood for houses, and the increased width of the thoroughfares. These enactments have since been followed, in a similar spirit, by the Metropolitan Buildings Act and by the Acts restricting the storage of gunpowder, and still more recently against that of petroleum in localities where such was likely to threaten danger to the lives or property of the public.

The extension of commerce, no less than that of scientific discovery (as displayed in the manufacture of gas and other inflammable commodities of common life), renders it necessary that legislation should keep equal pace, as nearly as may be, with that of other branches of national progress.

There is practically no infringement upon private interests in such restrictions as the varying improvements of the times render imperative. If every gas manufactory, every storehouse of combustible material, from petroleum and paraffin down even to timber, were to be driven to-morrow from the metropolis to the Essex marshes, the increased difficulty of delivery would be at once compensated to the vendors by a rise in price. And this difference would in turn be compensated to the public by increased safety. Superficially-minded persons may fancy that there is no loss by fire when goods thereby destroyed happen to be insured. They do not reflect that every penny of this insurance they themselves pay, either by their own increased rates of assurance, or, if non-insurers, by their own peril of loss in case of conflagration. In either case the public loses by the deprivation, and consequent scarcity of material; in other words, by its enhancement in price. The misfortune of every individual, properly considered, is that of the whole community. It can be but poor satisfaction to a labourer about to be burned alive in a barge on the river to know that his lamp has been replenished with oil at a few pence cheaper per gallon than if the warehouse had been a mile inland in an unfrequented neighbourhood; while, in case of his death, the parish upon whom his widow and family may chance to be thrown will have to make up, in the way of rates, the deficiency caused by the loss of the honest worker supporting those around him, and throwing the benefits of his labour into the stock of the commonwealth.

The calamity which the ancient wooden houses and narrow thoroughfares of London entailed upon the City two hundred years ago, is now threatened by our acres of brick warehouses and by our gasometers, stored with materials ready, on the contact of flame or spark, to start into desolating explosion, or overrun our streets, and even the river itself, with inextinguishable liquid fire. If there were no room for such dépôts save in the places where they now stand, their existence might be excusable. But far above bridge, on hitherto unused flats, accessible alike by rail, by river, and by road, beyond danger to metropolitan crowds and habitations, or to the thick-masted Pool,

there yet remain miles of shore where factories and storehouses might stand, not only without peril, but without annoyance to the public comfort and safety.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY has commissioned Mrs. Thorneycroft to make a bust of the Princess Alexandra of Denmark, and her Royal Highness is giving daily the necessary sittings for the model.

THE PRINCE OF WALES on Monday evening embarked at Civita Vecchia, on board the Osborne, via Toulon or Marseilles, on his way to England.

THE INTELLIGENCE of the premature death of her Majesty's grandson, the youthful heir of Kamehameha, King of the Sandwich Islands, has just arrived.

THE COUNTESS OF GRANVILLE, mother of the President of the Council, died on Tuesday, in her seventy-eighth year.

MR. CHISHOLM ANSTEE has been restored by the Duke of Newcastle, Colonial Secretary, to his office of Attorney-General of Hong-Kong, from which he was suspended by Sir John Bowring some years since.

THE MARRIAGE of a CHINAMAN with a Parisian woman has just taken place at the church of Sainte-Elizabeth, in the Rue du Temple, and attracted a considerable crowd.

SINCE the arrest of the Camorristi at Naples the revenues of the octroi of that city have increased by 72 per cent.

THE NEWSPAPERS in the west of Ireland are agitating the question of flax culture in that quarter as a means of improving the country and turning the soil to more advantage than at present.

THE DIOCESAN AUTHORITIES of MILAN have forbidden Father Passaglia to continue his Advent sermons in the church of San Carlo.

A GROUP in MARBLE, by the sculptor Vela, representing Italy expressing gratitude towards France, is now exhibited at the Albertina Academy at Milan. It is a present offered by the ladies of Milan to the Empress Eugénie.

MR. GLADSTONE has declined an invitation from the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce to dine with its members, excusing himself on account of the demand of public business upon his time and attention.

IT IS SAID that her Majesty the Queen is the great friend of Dr. Thomson, and promoter of his interests in the matter of his elevation to York, as his sermon on the death of the Prince Consort was the one, of all those preached at the time, she was most pleased with.

THE NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY, 29, Great George-street, Westminster, will be closed from Saturday, Nov. 29, to Wednesday, Dec. 17.

PRINCE NAPOLEON, says a Paris correspondent, is not in favour at Court. He does not intend to go to Compiègne, which will not probably break the heart of the lady who shares the throne of France with Napoleon III.

ONE OF THE GOLD CLAMIS in NOVA SCOTIA has yielded 960 ounces of gold from 329 tons of quartz.

THE POLICE in ROME are very much annoyed by some young English ladies, who have appeared in "red shirts" à la Garibaldi.

THE MARINE INSURANCE COMPANIES in BOMBAY have determined to raise the present rates of insurance 1 per cent all round.

THE MARQUIS of WESTMINSTER on Monday laid the foundation-stone of a new hospital, which is about to be built by Mr. Laird, M.P., near the park entrance, Birkenhead, at a cost of about £5000.

A SHOCK of EARTHQUAKE was felt at Pinerolo (Piedmont) on the 18th. It was undulatory, in the direction of east to west, and lasted twenty seconds. The sky was slightly clouded, and the thermometer stood at 37 deg. Fahr.

A YOUNG MARRIED WOMAN was last week burned to death at Sheffield from her clothes, disended by crinoline, becoming ignited as she passed before the kitchen fire while engaged in cooking. Several other accidents from a like cause are reported, in one of which no less than three persons lost their lives.

THE COUNCIL of the SOCIAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION have decided, by twenty-two to seventeen, to hold the meeting of 1863 in Edinburgh. York was the other place proposed.

THERE IS A RUMOUR FLYING ABOUT THE GERMAN COURTS that the King of Portugal has granted to Victor Emmanuel a piece of country on the African coast to serve as a penal settlement for the Neapolitan prisoners.

SCHILLER'S BIRTHDAY (Nov. 10) has been celebrated this year, with more or less splendour, in nearly all the greater towns of Germany, and bids fair more and more to become a national festival with our cousins beyond the North Sea.

IT APPEARS by the New York papers that the new iron-clads of the Monitor class are incapable of steaming more than seven knots an hour, and that only with a clean bottom. In strong tides they will make sternway.

ABOUT SEVENTY INDIVIDUALS have been arrested by the police of Constantinople for circulating false reports as to the health of the Sultan. As a sharp look-out is being kept for bubblers on this subject, critics of his Majesty's condition have to be guarded in their remarks.

RECENTLY a telegram was transmitted direct from New York to San Francisco, a distance of 3500 miles. An answer was received within a few hours.

FRENCH LADIES of the highest rank are now in the habit of slightly painting the cheeks just under the eyes, to give those organs a brilliant appearance. Different colours are used in painting, according to the colour of the eyes.

FOUR YOUNG MEN, engaged in skating on a dam at Carron, near Falkirk, were drowned last week by the ice breaking at a spot where the water is deep.

THERE HAS BEEN A MOVEMENT AT SANDHURST, which was as near to a mutiny without actually being one as was possible. His Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief himself went there to put matters straight.

THE REV. DR. CHARLES JOHN ELLICOTT is to be the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, in the room of Dr. Thomson, translated to the archiepiscopal see of York.

THE POOR-LAW BOARD have authorised the guardians of Preston and Blackburn to borrow money under the provisions of the Union Relief Aid Act. The guardians of Preston are authorised to borrow £3517 9s. 11d., and the guardians of Blackburn £1890.

IT HAS BEEN DECIDED by SIR GEORGE LEWIS, in concurrence with the opinion of his Royal Highness the Field Marshal Commanding-in-Chief, that, in cases of troops encamped for limited periods for instruction or short special services, they should not be considered entitled to field allowances.

THE CHARTREUSE lately imported into Liverpool and said to be a young gorilla, has, as we intimated last week, been decided by competent authority to be no gorilla at all, but only a chimpanzee, and therefore no novelty in this country.

MISSIRIDGLOU, one of the principal and richest Armenian bankers of Constantinople, died suddenly on Monday evening week, leaving, it is said, a fortune of above one million sterling, nearly the whole of which has been made out of his dealings with the Government within the last ten years.

A TELEGRAM FROM SUZ states that the great trench of Euphrates, in which 25,000 workmen have been employed for several months past, has been opened, and the waters of the Mediterranean flow into the lake of Tisnab. The extent to which the Suez Canal has now been pierced is seventy-five kilometres.

ADVISES FROM ROME speak of the intention of the Pope to have a new port made at the mouth of the Tiber, which would be nearer Rome and more commodious than Civita Vecchia. His Holiness believes that, after the cutting of the Isthmus of Suez, two ports will not be too much for the share of Rome in the great movement which will place Europe in relation with India and China.

ON SATURDAY, at Eagly, near Bolton, a number of boys were sliding on a sheet of water, when the ice broke, and three of them (all comers) were precipitated into the water. One of them succeeded in getting out, but the two others, named Thomas Hardman and James Fielding, aged respectively twelve years and nine years, were drowned.

TO THE LEEDS CHARITIES AND THE BRADFORD INFIRMARY Mr. Abraham Murgave, of Bramley, whose death occurred a few days ago, has left the sum of £40,000. This magnificent legacy will be a welcome addition to the funds of the institutions to which it has been bequeathed. £10,000 go to the Bradford Infirmary, and the remaining £30,000 to the Leeds General Infirmary, the Leeds House of Recovery, and the Leeds Eye and Ear Infirmary, in equal proportions of £10,000 to each.

THE CEREMONY of the INAUGURATION of the STATUE of ALFRED AT ASTI took place on the 16th instant, and is described as having been extremely impressive. The statue is the work of the sculptor Dini. Professor Matteucci, Minister of Public Instruction, delivered a speech, after which his Excellency gave M. Dini the decoration of the Order of Saints Maurice and Lazarus, conferred on him by the King.

THE PRINTERS of PARIS HAVE PRINTED ON VELUM THE ORATIONS of BOSSUET, and have produced a book in a style of magnificence quite unequalled for typographical excellence. This volume they have presented to M. Berryer, in acknowledgment of his defence of the body at a recent trial arising out of a strike. In order that no other copy should exist the forms were immediately broken up, and the volume will naturally become a treasure to the bibliomaniac.

MM. WHERLIN and HOFER, of Mulhausen, France, who closed their mill in August last, have undertaken to maintain all their hands on full pay until July next. The operatives attend every day at the mill at the usual hours. The men are employed at field works about the grounds, and the women occupy themselves with knitting and needlework. There is a school established for the children, where they are taught to read and write.

SOME TOURISTS just returned from the Rhine found the words "How's your poor foot?" written by some cockney traveller "on the castle crag of Drachenfels."

THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT has declared its willingness to resume negotiations for the conclusion of a commercial treaty with Switzerland, although the validity of the treaty will depend upon the ratification of that concluded with Germany.

AN ORLEANSIST WIT once defined the difference between an accident and a misfortune. Speaking to a friend he said, "If Louis Napoleon were to fall into a pit, that would be an accident; if you were to help him out, that would be a misfortune." If a scroter chanced to strangle Sir Joshua Jebb, should it properly be called an accident or a misfortune?

THE CURRENT REPORT that corporal punishment has been abolished in Russia is incorrect. The Grand Duke Constantine, the Princes Gortschakoff, Dolgorouki, &c., wish to do away with the whip and stick, but they are unable to make head against the Minister of Police and the Metropolitan of Moscow, as the latter continually quotes Scripture in support of his opinion.

THE NEW YORK PAPERS contain an account of the trial-trip of the Paissac turret-battery, built on the plan of the Monitor, carrying two guns in her turret, one of 11in. and the other of 15in. bore, the latter being the largest piece of ordnance that has yet been mounted on board any vessel. The speed attained by the Paissac on her trial-trip was only five knots.

THE PROPRIETOR of a THEATRE AT HONTOU quarrelled with Mr. Wilde, lessee of Leotard, the "trapist," as to a commission due to him. It came out in evidence that Mr. Wilde paid Leotard £200 a week for his services at the Alhambra, and £20 a night for performances anywhere else. In other words, a French acrobat receives a salary greater than the income of the Archbishop of Canterbury, and nearly three times that of the Premier, for jumping from one rope to another at the risk of his neck.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

TRAIN'S last exhibition is ridiculous enough. He got up a discussion with Cassius M. Clay—almost as preposterous a fool as himself—on the subject of Slavery, Train undertaking the defence of the "peculiar institution." When he was in England, Train was an Abolitionist, shrank with disgust from contact with Mason, the Confederate Commissioner, when he passed because he is a proprietor of slaves—"a disgusting slaveholder!" Now Train himself defends slavery. In England he was all for Abraham Lincoln. Now he sides with the Democrats. How has all this come about? I suspect that Train has had his comb cut; as we say, got his conceit and vanity taken down a notch or two. These qualities are boundless in George Frederick Train. I never saw them so strongly developed in any man before. Having failed here and got into gaol for debt, and been somehow let out again, he rushed over to America, and in the boundlessness of his conceit hoped to be received with open arms by the States' Government as the long-expected man. Indeed, he was once heard to say that the goal of the presidentship was open to him, and that when he had made some quarter of a million here by his transactions he should start for the prize. But, alas! in America he got the cold shoulder instead of a hearty greeting, was bowed out, and told quietly by signs, if not by words, that his services were not required. To us, who know Mr. Train, this is not wonderful, for the States' Government must indeed be in bad case if it required the help of such a charlatan as George Frederick Train. But to Train, who does not know himself, this reception was deeply mortifying, and turned all his patriotism sour at once. It is, however, an exceedingly wicked act to forsake the cause of the slaves, for, unless that bushy, unmanageable hair of his lies, he may claim kindred with the negro.

The *Saturday Review* has an article explanatory of the American term "Republicans" and "Democrats." Few of your readers, perhaps, see the *Saturday*—let me, therefore, give an explanation at once short and easy to be remembered. A Republican is a politician who wishes to strengthen the hands of the general Government by giving it more power, or, at all events, by securing to it what power it has—in other words, to strengthen the Republic, that it may act, in an emergency like the present, for example, with effect. This is a "Republican." The "Democrat," on the contrary, wishes not to strengthen the Government, but to give more power to the individual States. The Republicans are for strengthening the power of the Government; the Democrats are jealous of this power. Southerners are almost all Democrats. They have long seen that there was danger to their "peculiar institution" in the increase of the power of the Government. In the North, until lately, the Republicans were the strongest; but the late elections seem to show that the Democrats will in the next Congress be stronger than they are in this; and if they should, President Lincoln may find himself hampered; but the new Congress will not assemble until December, 1863, and let us hope that before that this dreadful war will be at an end.

There was a paragraph lately going the round of the newspapers which told us that the Galway Steam-packet Company was to amalgamate with the Canadian company. On inquiry I find that there is not, and never was, any truth in this statement. Who set it afloat I cannot say; but I suspect that it was a feeler—a sort of invitation or hint to the Canadian company. If so, it has failed, as it was sure to do; for what dower has the Galway concern to offer to the Canadian? The latter is successful and flourishing; but the former is in bad case. If that Government subsidy, now, had been secured, which Mr. Gregory, and Mr. Lever, and Mr. Roebuck, and Father Daly worked so hard to get, why, then there might have been some chance that Canada would listen to the wooing of Galway; but, alas! the subsidy is long in coming. Palmerston promised to consider it a year ago, and probably has considered and decided, though he makes no sign. I believe that really it is so. Indeed, it never was probable to me that the subsidy would ever be revived again. It was a Tory job of not a very creditable character to grant it at first. The Whigs had decided not to subsidise any packets to America again, and had left a minute on the books to that effect. But the Conservatives came in, and, being hard pushed for votes, revived the Canada contract, and entered into a new one with the Galway gentlemen. This is the case; and, as sure as eggs are eggs, Palmerston, having got rid of this subsidy, will take good care never to revive it.

But what will Gregory and his Irish cohort say to this manifest "injustice to Ireland?" Well, I suspect that my Lord Palmerston neither knows nor very much cares, for matters have changed since Gregory nearly upset the Government by carrying the Irish cohort over to the enemy. Then, on that paper-duty question, parties were so nicely balanced that the Irish cohort thought they could either frighten the Premier into compliance or revenge themselves if he refused; but now the Conservative country gentlemen have resolved that Palmerston shall not be disturbed next Session. Some say, indeed, that they mean to keep him in for life. But, however this may be, it is understood that next Session we are to have no serious fight, and this the Premier knows, and therefore he can afford to snap his fingers at Gregory and his cohort. But what of the economists? Will they not show fight? Well, on that head a little bird has chirped pleasantly in my ear that we are to have a considerable reduction of expenditure—"Five millions," some say; but say three to begin with.

Cabinet meetings are numerous just now, but there is nothing specially significant in this fact. At this season of the year the Government is always active. It has to decide upon the measures of the Session—the financial, legislative, departmental, and general—and to discuss the domestic and foreign policy to be pursued.

Mr. Henry Beaumont Coles, of Andover, lately deceased, was a man little known either in or out of the House. He represented Andover from 1847 to 1857. In the latter year Mr. Dudley Fortescue, a Liberal, attempted to oust Mr. Cubitt and secure both seats for the Liberals; but all he succeeded in doing was to get a seat for himself at the expense of Mr. Coles. When Mr. Cubitt resigned his seat for Andover, to stand for London, Mr. Coles was elected without opposition.

UTILISING LANCASHIRE LABOUR.—We have received a communication from Mr. Charles Baylis, of the Poultry, suggesting that the unemployed workmen of the distressed districts might be profitably engaged in constructing underground railways between the east and west of London. Mr. Baylis thinks such undertakings would be of great public convenience, would pay well for their construction, and propose the formation of companies for the purpose—the men to be paid wages for their labour out of funds subscribed, in the first instance, from a benevolent spirit, and the shares of the company to be afterwards allotted among those subscribers who may wish to participate in the completion of the enterprise. We have not space for the insertion of Mr. Baylis's letter in *extension*; but thus place his suggestion in substance before the public.

Literature.

Christopher North, A Memoir of John Wilson, late Professor of Moral Philosophy in the University of Edinburgh. By his Daughter, Mrs. Gordon. 2 vols. Edinbston and Douglas.

The memoir itself, while it contains a great deal of delightful anecdote, adds little or nothing to the picture of Wilson as it exists in the minds of his friends. Here was a man of a tremendous physique, capable of walking sixty or seventy miles at a stretch with little fatigue, and of jumping twenty-three feet with a run of six yards, prince of warriors and open-air gold-floors, an affectionate husband and father, a bright, easy-going man of letters, a writer of poetry so quiet that a woman might have produced it, a faithful and generous friend, and a good citizen. All "his" ladies with whom I would guess. The love-poets, even with "Margaret" we would not have guessed at exactly as it stands in the book; and one would like to know, if possible, since the subject is opened, the precise reason the episode did not end in wedding-bells. But Mrs. Goddard's knowledge appears very limited, and, after all, what does it concern us?

Nothing could exceed the ever active sociability of Wilson. We are thus told that when at college one of his great amusements was to go to the Angel Inn about midnight, when many of the rich and down London coaches met, and that there he used to preside at the supper table among the passengers, carving for them, asking them questions about their journey, and entertaining them with his talk, and sending them away wondering who he could be. He was also fond of animal pets to an almost incredible degree, and used, we are informed, to keep at one time sixty-two guinea-birds in a pen behind his house, besides dogs, and geese (we know what besides). A very amusing picture is drawn of his son fishing tackle and the use of bully-sugar (for the children) shoudering his books, and (to add) ion to make a poor student's mouth water) bark-rotates stuck anywhere between the volumes. Yet he seems to have been a sensitive worker, and the girls used to put off their hoes before going upstairs; it was a "writing for Blackwood."

Some of the anecdotes incidentally occurring are very entertaining even if one has seen them before. We pick out one pleasant story about both

WALTER SCOTT AND THACKERAY.

William, or, as he was always called, Willie Laidlaw, was the factor and friend of Sir Walter Scott at Abbotsford, and latterly his amanuensis; and in this case the truly kind and considerate use of his talents was paralleled by the affectionate devotion and admiration of another. If—any still retains as one of the pens with which I wrote to "Ivanhoe" his master's dictation; and he used to tell that at the most intense moments of his work, when he happened to pause, which he very seldom did, namely,

"Ay, Whilom man, what next! that's the devil o'ery us," so passed with the reality of the tale was the busy penman. It is curious subject much and how little an author such as Scott can do. His own creature. If they live and move, they possess him often as much as he them. The "sneaking spirit" within him is by turns master and slave. Some one asked the consummate author of "Esmond," "Why did you let Esmond marry his mother-in-law?" "If it wasn't I; they did it themselves."

Both as a thinker on great public questions, and as a critic, Wilson grew more conscientious as he grew in years, but he was unreluctant to the last. In 1881, in a review of "Poems by A." (Matthe Arnold), he calls Carlyle a "cramped" writer, and Emerson "a pompous" one; and in that volume of poems, which contains "The Sick King in Bokhara," he describes "The Forsaken Merchant" as the "solitary pearl." Now he liked that because it was about children's and mothers' love, and he understood it off-hand. But he did not like the other, because his head had gaps in it, and was incapable, it seems, of dealing patiently with a thing that did not at once recommend itself to him. It does not appear to have occurred to him that a thing might be very good, and yet displeasing to him, or that his head *might* have gaps in it. It is a common thing with men of his type—the type in which the sympathies are much more active than the conscience, however active that may be.

We must not forget to say that the two volumes are brightened by some characteristic woodcuts, from sketches chiefly by Lockhart, though one is by the late Professor Forbes.

"*Unto this Last.*" Four Lectures on the First Principles of Political Economy. By JOHN RUSKIN. Smith, Elder, and Co.

Readers of the reviewing columns of the ILLUSTRATED TIMES do not require to be told that we stand up for the right of Mr. Ruskin to say whatever he pleases. The "arrogance" with which he has

The stern boy that warriors feel
In tomen worthy of their steel

who calls the sort of writing we have here "arrogant." It is writers who have none of the patience and continence necessary to correct intelligence and just expression. We who write this review belong, by every affinity, to the school of thought directly opposite to that in which Mr. Ruskin teaches; but it has very, very rarely occurred to us to think his language objectionable or his logic ridiculous. We believe that in *applying* his social philosophy he blunders; but that the blunder is *ethical*, not in the detail; and that, consequently, the sort of comment to which his writings are often subjected is wholly beside the mark. And, whether we agree or disagree with what Mr. Ruskin says, we have always a welcome for him, such as we can afford only to something under a dozen living authors. As to his estimate of himself, anybody who cares to know what it is may find it in an awfully-sincere and very modest passage in "The Two Paths." Whoever after reading that calls Mr. Ruskin arrogant, "hes—under a mistake," to say the best of it.

Having, we must, earned the right to be caudil, we are now going to accuse Mr. Ruskin of capriciousness, and to make good our charge. In preface, in the preface to the present volume he quotes Mr. Mill as saying "Writers on political economy profess to teach or investigate the nature of wealth." At the word "investigate" Mr. Ruskin puts an asterisk, referring you to the bottom of the page, where you find this footnote—"Which? for where investigation is necessary teaching is impossible." Now we call upon Mr. Ruskin to strike out this hasty nonsense. Mr. Mill expressly says "to teach or to investigate," which of itself is enough to subvert the footnote of his critic. And, what is more, Mr. Ruskin must know that the most effective sort of teaching in certain matters is that which *takes the form of* "investigation" or inquiry. If Mr. Ruskin were to write a book called "An Inquiry into the Principles of Political Economy," he would think it rather absurd to criticise, without reading it, were to say, "Oh! where investigation is necessary teaching is impossible. There's nothing to be learnt from this book, for it's only an inquiry." Heartily and unreservedly, however, we commend this little volume to our readers. Not one of them, perhaps, would have so deadly a quarrel with portions of it as we have; but we hope thousands of them would find as much delight and as much moral stimulation in reading it.

Golden Gleanings: Being a Selection from the Poets, Devotional and Moral. Whittaker and Co.

Almost everything has been done to make this book a great success. It is beautifully printed on fine-toned paper, its title-page is picked out with red, its binding is rich and quaint, and protected by a elegant printed paper wrapper. In general effect, in fact, it is sensation. But there is one fatal objection to be made, which is that the compiler must be one of the most slovenly mortals among workmen that the world has ever produced. The words "Devotions and Moral" have very properly been accepted in a broad sense; and therefore the pages are not absolutely of a religious kind, but contain many passages from authors with whom the religious world would promptly wage war. Thus, Lord Byron and Thomas Moore are admitted, together with one or two of the few passages not afflicted with revelry that happened to stray among the muses hovering around Habbington and Randolph. So far this is right enough, and there is not much harm to a few weak-witted nonentities swelling the ranks of the "best authors," although, indeed, a selection might manage to avoid some of the unenviable varieties which are to be found in a peepie. But with these "Golden Glennings" we must complain of a recklessness of order and method, which leads to the idea that the book must have been made up by the shovel, and to sins of omission of a character quite ludicrous. It is easy to understand why the name of Thomas Carew is not to be found in the book evidently intended as a present for young ladies; and why it should commence with Gerald Massey's sporadicities about "Alber Tomb" on not much matter, and was probably prompted more by loyal than a poetic feeling. But, in the midst of such people as Massey, Mrs. Barbauld, and "Ezra Waugh" (of whom we never heard until he left Camplen Howe and went to Spain for the better of his health), it is startling to miss not only Sidney Godolphin and Richard Lovelace, but Shelley, Tennyson, and the two Browning. Even Keble does not find a place. There is no Thomas Hood. Not a line of Shakespeare, but plenty of N. P. Willis and Mrs. Sigourney. As a matter of course, the celebrated stanza commencing, "The spacious firmament on high" are assigned to Addison instead of Andrew Marvell. That is the mistake of everybody, including Mr. Thackeray, who "sees the dear man's face looking out of every line" in his famous lectures. One matter, however, is satisfactory: there is certainly a specimen of the Rev. Charles Wolfe, which is not "The Burial of Sir John Moore." This is the more pleasing, as the public impression is that he never wrote another line; but he has, in reality, written many, and all of a fine quality.

As a matter of course, it is impossible to have a thick collection of English verse without having much that is valuable; but a little labour was most necessary in this case. Something like order was wanted, alphabetical or chronological, and a couple of dates each author would have been a valuable addition at the expense of evening's amusement. The book is a street crowd, not a party à la française.

FROM THE SOVEREIGN.—This appointment, it is believed, to which in preference of the medical profession aspire, has just been bestowed on Mr. George Henry Hawkins, F.R.S., (the vacancy having been caused by the death of Sir Philip Brodie,) Mr. Hawkins, who has also been a member of the council of the Royal College of Surgeons, filled all the high offices of president of that institution in 1832, and, for a second time in the past year. Her Majesty has two serjeant-surgeons, that Nestor of British surgery, Mr. Lawrence, being the senior. One of the duties of the office is to attend the Sovereign in all battles. Henry V. when he invaded France had only one principal surgeon with him, one Thomas Morested, afterwards engaged to Henry VI. He wrote a "goodly booke of chirurgery" which is now extremely rare. This person was authorized to press as many surgeons as he thought necessary, and it appears from Rymér's "Fleta" that with the army which won the day at Agincourt there landed only one surgeon, this same Thomas Morested, who did, indeed, engage fifteen in his capacity; but these gentlemen were compelled to add a little fighting to the practice of surgery, and three of them acted as archers. He took into his service also Nicolas Colinet, a field surgeon for one year. With such a medical staff what must have been the state of the wounded after the day of battle! The pay was £10 quarterly and twelve pence daily for subsistence; but then both Morested and Colinet could receive prisoners and plunder, and when the latter amounted to more than £20 in value a third part of it was given to the King.

STEPHENSON DOG.—George still found time to attend to his favourite animals while working at the Water-row Pit. Like his father, he used to tempt the robin-breasts to hop on a fly about him at the engine-fire, the neat oil of broad-crumbs saved from his dinner. But his favourite animal was his dog—so sagacious that he performed the duties of a servant in almost daily carrying his dinner to him at the pit. The tin containing the meat was suspended from the dog's neck, and, thus laden, he proudly walked to and fro on Jol's Close to Water-row Pit, quite through the village of Newbarn. He turned neither to left nor right, nor minded for the time the barking of curs at his heels. But his contrivance was not unattended with a price. One day the big, strange dog of a passing butcher espied the engine-man's messenger, ran after him, and fell upon him with the tin can about his neck. There was a terrible tussle and worrying between the dogs, we learned for a brief while, and shortly after the dog's master, anxious for his dinner, saw his faithful servant approaching, bleeding but triumphant. The tin can was still round his neck, but the dinner had escaped in the struggle. Though George went without his dinner that day, when the circumstances of the combat were related to him by the villagers who had seen it, he was prouder of his dog than ever.—*Smith's "Lives of the Engineers."*

MOSSOO AT THE SEASIDE.—No. 2.



BATHING COSTUMES.

FRENCH WATERING-PLACES.

ONE great characteristic of Mossuo is that he never allows his children to bore him. Indeed, he suffers but little from excess of domestic indulgence, and, though always ready to weep and smile over his young ones, and to go off into rhetorical fireworks about paternal love, he generally takes care that his offspring shall be kept apart from him as much as possible; so that you will very seldom find any of the more fashionable watering-places abroad beset with children. Papa takes mamma there, indeed, because he cannot very well leave her at home; and he must go him-

self because he enjoys the reputation of being a "vieux scélérat" among his intimate friends, and he does not regard the conjugal bonds—which, truth to say, sit but lightly upon him—as any obstacle to the flirtations in which he hopes to indulge by the seaside. When papa and mamma are old and their children are grown up, they also come here, for there is a snug *cercle*, at which in the evening papa meets many of his own set anxious for a game at dominoes or billiards; while the promenades in the morning and the balls at night give mamma a fair chance of providing for the future of their daughter, now of a marriageable age. Thither also

come widows (and a young French widow is like a horse just fresh from a galling harness), loungers from the Boulevards, and other timekillers. Flirtation is the order of the day and night; though occasionally, in the more romantic spots (such, for instance, as that which we have here), there will be found a set of dreary people, imbued with those dreariest of feelings, Mossuo hankerings after romance, who will sit and watch the waves, and hum opera tunes, and declare that the effect of the sunlight on the water is almost as good as a scene, and that the rocks remind them of a favourite *décor* at the Variétés.



REAL ENJOYMENT.—WHERE THE CHILDREN ARE SENT.



IMAGINARY PLEASURE.—WHERE THE LOUNGERS GO.

As we have said, the children seldom penetrate into these fashionable quarters. There are generally two portions of sand and sea to these watering-places, and nothing can be more different to the promenade—with its *Etablissement*, and its *Phare*, and its *café* always crammed with intending bathers or people who have just emerged from the sea—than the old quarter of the town to which, under the care of their *bonnes*, the children are sent.

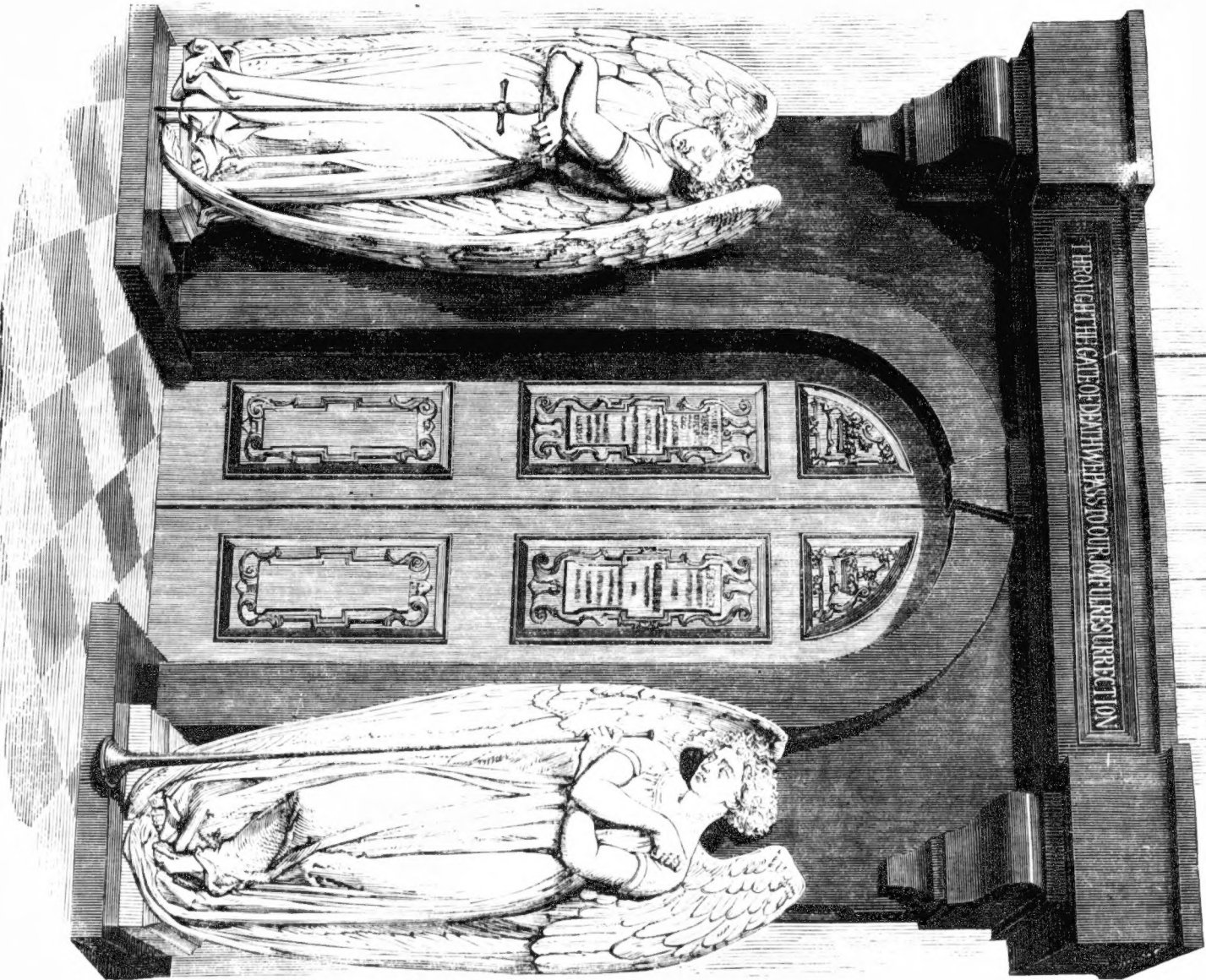


SIR HENRY MONTGOMERY LAWRENCE, K.C.B.—(T. G. LOUGH, SCULPTOR.)
BORN THE 22 JUNE 1826
DIED IN THE DEFENCE OF LUDHIANA
JULY THE 4 1857.

Here, perhaps, are the ruins of an old castle, among which they play, and here are wide open sands, where they run, and dig, and deposit themselves very much as English children under similar circumstances, save that they are always more advanced and precocious.

The complaints which every summer come looming up from the English coast as to the indecency of the bathing then and there taking place never could arise abroad: there the regulations as to costume are most rigorous, and most stringently enforced. The bathing-dress is generally of blue serge, though frequently *Moscos* will thrust forth in a *café* of gaudy stripes or feverish spots. The dress used by foreign ladies for bathing very much resembles the skeleton suit into which the boys of thirty years ago

NEW MONUMENTS IN ST. PAUL'S.



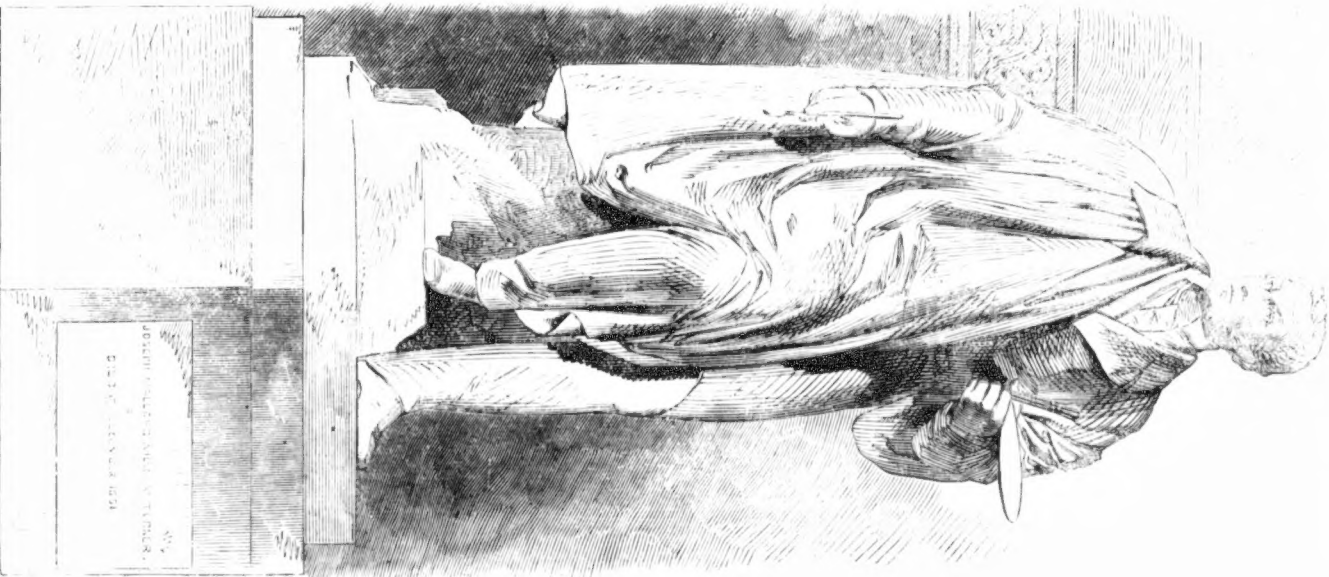
MONUMENT TO THE LATE LORD MELBOURNE.—(BARON MARCHESETTI, SCULPTOR.)

were buttoned, and is a great improvement on the shabby gowns worn by our English ladies, inasmuch as it gives perfect freedom of action to the limbs, and thus enables its wearers to swim, instead of merely taking the feeble jumps which constitute our female bathing.

NEW MONUMENTS IN ST. PAUL'S.

IS a recent *Number* (see ILLUSTRATED TIMES for Sept. 27, 1862) we had occasion to record the erection of a fine monument in St. Paul's Cathedral to Hallam, the historian; and our national Waltham has just been enriched with three other monuments to distinguished men, though in very

different spheres, of which we this week engrave representations. These works of art—each excellent in their way—are designed to perpetuate the memories of the indomitable, energetic, and self-sacrificing Indian hero, Sir Henry Lawrence, K.C.B.; the genial but indolent statesman, Lord Melbourne; and the great and gifted, if somewhat eccentric, artist, J. M. W. Turner. Although the leading events in the lives of each of these eminent men must be familiar to the public, yet it cannot be amiss that we should refresh our memories with the actions of men who have each played such prominent parts in the military, political, and artistic history of Great Britain. We subjoin, therefore, a brief outline of the career of each of the three men commemorated in the monuments recently erected in St. Paul's.



J. M. W. TURNER.—(E. M'DOWELL, R.A., SCULPTOR.)

entered the military service of the Hon. East India Company, in 1821, as a cadet in the Bengal Artillery. He soon acquired the reputation of being one of the ablest and most intelligent officers in the service; and, having seen active service in the Cooch campaign in 1843, he was raised to the rank of Major. In the same year he became British Resident at Nepal. He afterwards played a distinguished part in the campaigns on the Sutlej, so that after which he was made a Military Companion of the Bath, and at the same time promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. In 1846 he was appointed Resident at Lahore. It was for his able services in the administration of this important office that he was made a K.C.B. (civil) in 1848. In the following year he was appointed by Lord Dalhousie President of the Board for the

SIR HENRY MONTGOMERY LAWRENCE, the eldest son of Lieutenant-Colonel Alexander William Lawrence, sometime Governor of Upper Oude, and who distinguished himself by his gallantry at the attack on Seringapatam, was born at Melton, Devon, in 1806. Having received his early education at the diocesan school of Exeter, and afterwards at the Royal Military College at Addiscombe, Sir Henry Lawrence

reduction and government of the recently annexed province of the Punjab, where his administrative talents were admirably proved. On the outbreak of the Indian mutiny he showed himself one of the firmest and most able officers in the Company's service. He fortified and defended Lucknow with great skill and bravery; but his valuable life was lost to his country while commanding a sortie from the garrison.

The monument to this distinguished public servant has been erected by a public subscription made in India; and the sculptor, Mr. Lough, in executing the statue, has endeavoured, in arranging the costume, to combine both the civil and military capacity in which Sir Henry was employed. The basso-relievo on the pedestal represents him in the act of receiving some of the inmates of the college or institution which he founded in the Hills for the education of the children of soldiers. The statue represents Sir Henry as he looked while in Lucknow shortly before his death.

LORD MELBOURNE.

The monument to Lord Melbourne has been erected by his widow, now the wife of Lord Forrester, as a memorial of her late husband and of his brother, Lord Beauvale; the artist intrusted with the work being the eminent sculptor, Baron Marochetti, who has produced a design worthy at once of the subject and of his own genius, and which will no doubt add greatly to the attraction presented by the fine collection of monuments in St. Paul's.

William Lamb, Viscount Melbourne, was born in 1778, and entered the House of Commons in 1805, under the auspices of the Whigs. Canning appointed him Secretary of State for Ireland, a post he filled with very distinguished success. In 1828 he was called to the Upper House, after the death of his father, and while a member of Earl Grey's Cabinet greatly contributed to the passing of the Reform Bill. In 1834 he became First Lord of the Treasury, and head of the Whig party, a position he retained, with only one short interruption, until the year 1841. Lord Melbourne was but little qualified to head the Ministerial Councils of a great nation; but his engaging and conciliatory manners served to secure the allegiance, not alone of the Whig, but also of several distinguished members of the Tory party.

J. M. W. TURNER, R.A.

Joseph Mallord William Turner, the great English landscape-painter, was the son of a barber in London, where he was born in 1775. In early youth he evinced the strongest inclination for pictorial art, and so successfully did he labour in his vocation that, even in his thirtieth year, he was acknowledged as the first of living English landscape-painters. At that period (1805) it was written of him:—"Turner may be considered as a striking instance of how much may be gained by industry, if accompanied with perseverance, even without the assistance of a master. The way he acquired his professional powers was by borrowing where he could a drawing or a picture to copy, or by making a sketch of any one in the Exhibition early in the morning, and finishing it up at home. By such practices, and by patient perseverance, he has overcome all the difficulties of the art." He exhibited his first picture at the Royal Academy in 1787, in his twelfth year; and from this period until his death he sent, besides others to the British Institution, 259 pictures to the same place. Many of these works were of the most ambitious character, and included in the list were some reproductions of nature of marvellous skill and beauty. In 1799 he was elected associate, and, three years afterwards, academician. In 1807 he was appointed Professor of Perspective. Delighting in measuring his strength against the great master of landscape-painting, Claude, he, in 1808, began a series of sketches in process rivalry with him, entitled "Liber Studiorum." Many other celebrated engravings were also executed from designs, the principal being, "Scenery of the Southern Coast," illustrations to Rogers's "Italy" and to the poems of Byron, "Rivers of England," "Rivers of France," and "The Shipwreck." Ever progressing, he commenced by imitating Gainsborough, Wilson, and other English painters; afterwards followed Claude and Gaspar Poussin; till, finally, he threw off all signs of pupilage, and appeared as a bold, original, and unrivalled painter and colourist.

Of a reserved and unsocial disposition, Turner stood aloof from artistic and other society, and during his lifetime it used to be said that he was absorbed with a love of money. After his decease, however, it was found that he had bequeathed the whole of his pictures and drawings to the nation; and, as he had been in the habit of repurchasing the best of his earliest works as they came to be offered for sale, and had, moreover, refused, for years before his death, to part with his finest productions, the gift was indeed a magnificent one. His funded property he left to be applied to the purpose of founding an asylum for decayed artists at Twickenham. The will having been, unfortunately, informal in several respects, a Chancery suit was the result; but the matter was compromised by his next of kin taking the engravings and other property; one hundred of his finest oil-paintings and several hundreds of drawings and sketches becoming the property of the nation. These last were arranged for exhibition by Mr. Ruskin, and, together with his pictures, may be viewed at the Gallery of British Art in the South Kensington Museum. Turner died in 1851, in an obscure lodging on the banks of the Thames at Chelsea, where he had for a short time resided under an assumed name. His remains lie in the crypt of St. Paul's Cathedral, near the ashes of Reynolds, Wilkie, and other great luminaries of the English school of pictorial art.

The sculptor, Mr. McDowall, R.A., has been singularly happy in his delineation of the great artist, who is represented in the act of working upon one of those masterpieces which have rendered his a foremost name in the long roll of illustrious painters of nature.

FIRE AT THE OLD DUTCH CHURCH, AUSTINFRIARS.—A fire broke out on Saturday morning which all but destroyed the old Dutch Reformed Church, situated in Austinfriars. The building for some time past had been under repair, and soon after midnight an alarm was given that there was a great smell of burning timber in the church. The fire-engines came and the firemen looked about in all directions, but, though the smell appeared to pervade the whole building, they were upwards of an hour before they discovered it. At last it made its appearance in the roof; but the engines had been sent back, and before they could return the flames shot forth from the roof, towering high over the City. The fire extended to some adjoining premises, but they were extinguished, and a portion of the church was preserved, though that which escaped the fire received serious damage from water.

CHRISTOPHER NORTH AND SNOWBALLING.—I have referred to the Professor's peculiar power of preserving discipline, or rather of keeping up good-humour, gentlemanly fellowship, and order, without the necessity of discipline. An instance occurred during the session when he exercised this power in a matter not peculiar to his own class, not, indeed, showing itself within the class, but general to the students at large as a portion of the inhabitants of Edinburgh having a common tie. There was a great snowball riot in that session. This is a thing peculiar to Edinburgh, and not easily made intelligible to those who have not witnessed it. As a stranger it surprised me much. In the north we had our old feuds and animosities, often breaking out in serious violence and mischief. But that a set of people—most of them full-grown—should, without any settled feud, utterly change the whole tenor of their conduct and break into something like insurrection merely because snow was on the ground appeared to be a silliness utterly incomprehensible. This snowball affair became so formidable-looking that a mounted foreign refugee, with his head full of revolutions, galloped through the streets (I forget if he was in any way armed) calling out, "Barriade—shoot!" After it was pretty well over the Professor made a speech to us on the conclusion of his daily lecture. He did not condemn or even disparage snowballing; on the contrary, he expressed glowingly his sense of its sometimes irresistible attractions. These he illustrated by what had once occurred to himself and a venerable and illustrious friend. We thought at the time that he meant Dr. Chalmers. In a spring walk among the hills, and in the middle of a semi-metaphysical discussion, they came upon a snow-drift. By a sort of simultaneous impulse, borne on the recollection of early days, the discussion stopped, and they fell to a regular hard-bicker. After working away till they were covered with snow, pausing with fatigue and glowing red with exertion, they both stopped and laughed loud in each other's face—just such a laugh as he must have then expressed did the Professor force upon his class. Then came his contrast between such a scene and a fracas in the dirty streets, where low-bred ruffians took the opportunity to get out some bit of petty revenge or of mere wanton cruelty, or of insolence to those whose character and position entitled them to deference. And so he went on until there could not be a question that every one in the class who had been concerned in the affair felt warmed of himself. His practical conclusion was that they should have thicker, certainly, but not more than it from the college quadrangle and the street to the Pentland Hills.—*Mrs. Gordon's Memoir of John Wilson.*

OPERA, CONCERTS, AND NEW MUSIC.

THE success of "Love's Triumph" seems to increase with each representation. Probably, as a general rule, the audience "feel, not understand, its magic flow," for the libretto is certainly difficult of comprehension to the uninitiated. The music, however, is charming, and, in many respects, the best that Mr. Wallace has written.

In the winter it seems a great pity that the Crystal Palace should be at Sydenham, or, being there, that Mr. Mann's concerts should not be given somewhere else. This is naturally not the opinion or feeling of the Crystal Palace directors, for every Saturday, now that the winter season has begun, numbers of persons are attracted to the building by the known excellence of Mr. Mann's music. The programmes are always admirably arranged, and often include specimens of contemporary German music which cannot be heard elsewhere—to say nothing of the instrumental masterpieces of Mozart, Beethoven, Weber, and Mendelssohn, and vocal pieces from the operas of the best composers of all countries. At the first concert of the season the singers were Mdlle. Zeiss and Mr. Santley, and the instrumental artist M. Joachim, who performed Spohr's violin concerto in E. Mr. Mann's orchestra, though numerically small, is inferior in quality to none in the kingdom, nor has Mr. Mann any superior as a conductor.

It will be gratifying to unsuccessful composers of thirty-seven years of age to hear that Auber was thirty-eight when his first successful opera, "La Bergère Chataigne," was produced. We learn from an interesting but not thoroughly appreciative article by M. Sando, on Auber and his works (written for *L'Art Musical*, and translated at length for the *Musical World*), that the author of "Le Domino Noir," of "Fra Diavolo," of the "Muet de Portici," and thirty other works which are well known and have become popular, is now eighty years of age; and, "were the two last acts of 'La Circassienne,'" says M. Sando, "equal to the first, he might boast of having written when eighty years old one of his best operas." Auber was born at Caen, on the 29th of January, 1782. He studied music as an amateur, and went a great deal into society, where his wit, his agreeable manners, and his taste for the art which afterwards rendered his name illustrious, always procured him a warm reception. He was already favourably known among the artists and amateurs of the day by romances and a few pieces of instrumental music, when he produced at the Theatre Feydau, in 1813, a one-act opera, entitled "Le Séjour Militaire." This attempt did not satisfy the confidence his friends had in his talent. After some years' silence and a reverse of fortune experienced by his father, M. Auber found himself obliged to look for a livelihood to that art which had previously been only a source of amusement to him. Thus all musical Europe profited by the bad luck of M. Auber père. It was not, however, until after one more failure (making altogether two very little ones in an unusually long career) that he wrote "La Bergère Chataigne," already mentioned as his first thoroughly successful work. The first work Auber composed in conjunction with Scribe was "Leicester," a comic opera in three acts, brought out in the year 1822. After this experiment, which was attended with complete success, Scribe and Auber, so marvellously suited to understand and assist one another, produced a series of masterpieces, of which the most celebrated are "Le Maçon," played for the first time in 1825; "La Morte de Portici," in 1828; "La Fiancée," in 1829; "Le Domino Noir," in 1837; "Les Diamants de la Couronne," in 1841; "La Part du Diable," in 1843; "La Sirène," in 1844; and "Haydée," in 1847. The world has rarely, indeed, seen "such an example of productiveness so constantly successful as that of these two illustrious men, whose partnership was brought to a close only by the premature death of Scribe."

M. Sando, who, with all his merits, is often curiously pedantic, makes the following remarks in his article on Auber, and on himself: "It is suited us to reply to opponents of no authority, we could easily prove to them that no artist of merit ever found us insensible to his efforts, and that no one feels enthusiasm more readily than ourselves for things and men worthy of admiration." Of course, M. Sando does not feel enthusiasm for what appears to him unworthy of admiration. In short, he admires what he does admire, and all persons who admire what he does not admire are "opponents of no authority."

The Burlington Album of Piano-forte, Vocal and Dance Music, for 1863. Robert Cocks and Co. This richly illustrated, handsomely bound volume, contains a dozen vocal and instrumental pieces by the most popular composers of the day. Among the most remarkable may be mentioned Küken's song, "When loving us are parted;" Franz Abt's romance, "Angela's Visits;" a transcription for the piano of "I know a bank," by Mr. Brinley Richards; a rondino for the same instrument, on the air of "Bonnie Prince Charlie," by Mr. Vincent Wallace; the "Gipsy's Quadrille," by Mr. Stephen Glover; and "Les Cerises," a waltz, by Alphonse Leduc.

Home of all I love, farewell! Song, Words by G. Comelati (English version by Charles Pelham Malvern); music by Oscar Kraemer, John May, Dublin.—This song is said to have been composed for Mdlle. Titiens, which we can readily believe. Numbers of songs were composed for Mdlle. Titiens, but some are unfit to be sung, and others, though not positively unsingable, are unfit to be heard. This "Home of all I love, farewell!" however, is really a very beautiful song; and it, as is stated, Mdlle. Titiens has sung it, the success of the composition must from that moment have been rendered certain.

Afternoon in February. Words by Longfellow; music by Arthur Cottam. Rudall, Rose, Carte, and Co.—Mr. Cottam has been happily inspired in the melody to which he has set, with much taste and feeling, the admirable verses commencing:—

The day is ending,
The night descending,
The marsh is frozen,
The river dead.

T'Amo, Romanza. Jules Benedict, Chappell and Co.—This is the charming romance, written by Mr. Benedict expressly for Mr. Santley. We have already had occasion to express our admiration of it in noticing the Monday Popular Concerts, where it was originally introduced.

Among the musical albums for Christmas issued by Messrs. Doosey we may briefly call attention to "The Ballroom Music-book," containing 40 polkas, 50 waltzes, 10 galops, 2 var-ovianas, 2 schottisches, and 12 complete sets of quadrilles; "The Drawing-room Music-book," containing 31 "more-aux-de-salon" by Ascher, Cramer, Talcott, Leduc, Dreyschok, Gorio, Commettant, Rosellen, Badazewski, &c.; "The Christy's Minstrel's Song-book;" and "The Verdi Album," a collection of 25 popular songs from Verdi's operas in English and Italian, including many compositions hitherto unknown in this country, and arranged in such a manner as to suit (as far as possible) every description of voice.

THE SMITHFIELD CLUB CATTLE-SHOW.—On Saturday last the Agricultural Hall at Islington presented indications of the close approach of that annual show of fatted cattle which has during the last twenty years obtained so much popularity in the metropolis. In the arrivals of some of the more bulky implements of agriculturists which have been exhibited at South Kensington, and which have made their way direct from the International Exhibition. It is understood, however, that there will be many novelties in this department, as, in addition to those which come under the rules of the club as agricultural implements, there will be a separate exhibition of machinery and implements of a general character as well. Amongst the new features connected with the show of this year is the introduction of a five-shilling day—namely, on the first day of opening, the 8th of December. The Earl of Feversham is the president of the club for this year, and, although there was some intention of abandoning the annual dinner, the opening of the new hall and other circumstances have given such an impetus to the ensuing meeting generally that the dinner will take place at the Freemasons' Hall, and be presided over by his Lordship. The presentation of a large and additional number of prizes, and the substitution of valuable silver cups for medals, will attract a much larger attendance than usual. The applications for space for the exhibition of implements are very numerous, and the specimens will have to be in their places before Saturday, the 6th of December, and all animals and other stock intended for exhibition must be in the show-yard before twelve o'clock on the night of Friday, the 5th of December, as after that hour on no pretence will any be admitted.

TERRIBLE COLLIERY EXPLOSION.

A FEARFUL explosion of gas occurred at Walker Colliery, about three miles from Newcastle-on-Tyne, on Saturday morning last, by which no less than sixteen men and boys have lost their lives. Walker Colliery is among one of the oldest in the coal trade, having been at work nearly a century, and is about the last of the old famous Wallsend collieries working, all the others having been drowned out. It has two pits, the "Ann" and the "Jane," the shafts being about a quarter of a mile apart, and their depth 160 fathoms. The shaft of the Jane pit has only been reopened about nine months, after being widened and enlarged, and the coals are brought to bank by that shaft, which is a down-cast shaft. Saturday was "pay"-day at the pit, and the pitmen were not employed in the mine. It was laid off, and preparations had been made for a large Sunday-school tea-party to be held in the evening. It is usual, however, when the pit is laid off, for the shifters, stonemen, and others, to "red it" up, as it is termed, doing any odd jobs in the air-ways and other parts of the workings; in fact, to put it in good order for the men to resume work on the Monday morning. Between twenty and thirty men and lads employed about the pit in this way had gone down about two o'clock a.m., and the explosion occurred between half-past five and six o'clock. Two banksmen, named Charles Robson and Joseph Richardson, heard the sound of a tremendous rush of air up the working-shaft of the colliery where they were stationed, and on looking in that direction they observed steam and a cloud of fragments flying from the pit's mouth. They informed the enginewright of the fact, and the alarm that an explosion had occurred spread to the village. Before seven o'clock three men were brought up at the up-cast shaft. They were all alive, but each was suffering from the effects of gas and fright, as well as from the shock they had received by being thrown down when the explosion occurred. From their statements it seems that there were twenty-five men in the pit, some of whom were working "in-by," at a considerable distance from the mouths of the shafts. It is believed that one of these men had been at work in a "trouble" and had fired shots, from which the explosion occurred. The injured men were taken home and were attended by Dr. Richardson, who reports that all who had come up alive are likely to recover. They describe the first warning they had of the explosion as like the sound of a hurricane, and its effect on themselves was to throw them violently down.

Up to six o'clock on Sunday night the bodies of sixteen men and lads had been brought to bank in collins and dispatched in carts to their homes. The pit was found to be little the worse for the accident, and was expected to be made fit for work in a shift or two. The cause of the accident has not been ascertained, further than the conjecture mentioned above.

As is usual at colliery explosions there have been many providential escapes. George Mitford, one of the shifters, was working in another part of the pit at the time of the explosion. As soon as he felt the concussion of the air, which is unmistakable in cases of explosion, he ran for his life, but was overtaken by the firedamp, and was stuck down like a shot. He gave himself up for dead, but was fortunately rescued by some men who descended the pit at the first alarm of the explosion to save as many as they could. There has not been so large a crowd about the pit as has been noticed at former colliery explosions in the district, and the people have been very well-behaved and orderly.

The following is a description of the interior of the pit after the explosion and the discovery of the bodies:—"The first news of the catastrophe produced great alarm among the colliery people living in the village, and the distress of those whose relatives were known to be down the pit was most poignant. Occasionally, during Saturday, a weeping woman might be seen near the colliery; but the majority of the afflicted ones wisely refrained from leaving their homes to visit a scene which might aid to but could not alleviate their woe. The colliery operatives and other men, to the number of 200 or 300, assembled about the colliery, where they waited with patience and remarkable quietness for such tidings from below as might be communicated to them. The high platform of the pit, where the work of the downcast shaft is carried on, was kept clear by a force of the Northumberland county police, and the work of exploring and clearing the pit of gas was conducted steadily and with dispatch. With that heroic sacrifice of self which, in times of peril, is one of the noblest characteristics of the north-country miner, plenty of men were ready and willing to descend into the dangerous windings of the mine in search of their comrades, and every man of them took his turn with the utmost alacrity. As first among the foremost we may mention John Knox, Thomas Collins, and Mason, who between seven and eight o'clock made their way to the furnace to renew the fires, in order to restore, as far as possible, the ventilation of the mine. At first the air, even near the shafts, was foul and dangerous, but as the morning advanced the pit cleared itself to some extent; but it was apparent that, in the shattered condition to which the ways had been reduced, bratticing must be fixed in order to effect a complete clearance. In the course of the day, therefore, bratticing was carried down, and was gradually extended into the most noxious part of the colliery. Many of the men who formed the first exploring party were brought up in a state of partial incapacity from the effects of the after-damp, but as the brattice was extended the danger became proportionately diminished. It was not, however, until about seven o'clock at night that the task of identifying the dead and bringing them to the bottom of the shaft became practicable. At this time the work of recovering the bodies commenced in earnest. The party then permeating the recesses of the mine witnessed sad and awful scenes. All around was a wreck; on the one hand a man lay dead, on the other was a horse on his knees, his ears pricked up, his eyeballs still appearing to glare with fright, though he was quite dead, and had probably been killed instantaneously by the first and only shock of the explosion. Four of the men were found in their respective "boards," or long narrow spaces of working. One man, Moore, had been blown a distance of about thirty yards from the face of the seam; he was much scorched, but not considerably injured in other ways, and he was easily recognised. In the second board T. Miller, a man about forty years of age, was lying near the face of the board, and seemed as calm as if in life. He was neither scorched nor wounded, and did not seem to have been moved from the place where he had been working. Thomas Kenny was the man in the third board, and he had been carried by the force of the blast about forty-six yards from the place where he had been working when the explosion occurred. One of his legs was broken below the knee; he was sadly burnt about the head, and was so much disfigured as not to be easily recognized. John Ellerton, who was in the fourth board, was thrown about sixteen yards from the face of the working, and was much scorched. His body was almost buried among an accumulation of flat stones, and he was disfigured. William Burrell was found in the west way, leading to the "juds." He was lying flat upon his face, and appeared to have been struck dead by fire. "Juds" is a name applied by miners to broken workings, and in one of these juds, about 100 yards from the unbroken workings, or boards, five men were found. John Mitcheson, George Barnes, and William Barnes were discovered lying over each other in the corner of the jud, and it was remarked as a curious fact that a watch found in the pocket of William Barnes was still going and indicating the correct time. A watch found in the pocket of George Barnes had stopped at ten minutes past six o'clock. In the west jud Thomas A. Kinson was lying on his back upon some coal, where it was inferred he had been resting at the time of the explosion. Barnes seemed to have been struck on the face, as he was lying in a similar position on the coals. An expression of intense fright was observable on his countenance and in his eyes. John Holt was found in the roley-way. Thus twelve men were found, and were brought to the foot of the shaft. Five collins, being all that were then ready, received the remains of five men, which were then hoisted out of the pit and taken to the homes of the distressed relatives of the deceased. A small crowd stood around during this portion of the sad work, and they seemed for the moment to be solemnly impressed with the funeral aspect of the scene as the collins were removed. One widow was present when the corpse of her husband was brought up, and a father had waited in silent sadness during the day for the bodies of his two sons."

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